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Round the World With Friend Shakespeare¹

Johnson Brigham, president of the Iowa Shakespeare club, Des Moines

Cora B. Millay, mother of Edna St Vincent Millay, overheard "Little Otis" ruminating on Geography. Hear him:

There ain't no sense in Jog-er-fry
Unless you're goin' away.
Gram says I've got to learn a little
Ev'ry stormy day—
About who lives in Af-ri-ca;
About who lives in Si-am,
I don't care who those fellers are
And they don't care who I am.

Thinking those of you who "ain't goin' away," would not be greatly interested in a prosaic account of a trip-round-the-world, I have brought friend Shakespeare along, assured that the observations and reflections of my fellow-tourist will be of interest to librarians.

Since my return, I have given several pleasant hours to verifying my impressions by turning to Shakespeare's plays and re-reading half-forgotten scenes which on the journey haunted my memory—and this paper is the result.

Without regard to chronological order, let me first take you to sea with me and then land you in Rome, by way of Paris, Genoa and Florence.

There are moments during the voyage when the steamer rolls and pitches and when, on advice of the deck-steward, the passengers "seek the seclusion that the cabin grants," when even the hardiest amateur sailor feels, with honest old Gonzalo, in *The Tempest*:

Now, would I give a thousand furlongs of sea for an acre of barren ground, long heath, brown furze, any thing. The wills above be done! but I would fain die a dry death.

I have in mind a certain day we passed on the Mediterranean when Paul's graphic story of his shipwreck came back to me along with the opening scene in *The Tempest*.

But in the main, the Seven Seas, the Atlantic and the Pacific were kind, and the lands at Cherbourg, Port Said, Aden, Colombo, Penang, Singapore, Hong-Kong, Shanghai, Kobe, Yokohama and Honolulu were all full of interest to us.

Tho I neglected to take my Shakespeare with me, I found him in the steamer's library, and found certain of his memorable utterances suggested by scenes and events quite remote from the plays in which they appear. For instance:

As we sailed thru the Strait of Messina, and looked out on the rocky coast of Sicily, with Mt Aetna tamely enjoying an after-breakfast smoke, I recalled *Winter's Tale*, as delightfully played by the Mary Anderson of other days. In this charming play, as you will recall, the king, the prince, and several lords of Sicily loom large.

As we neared Sicily, the day was perfect,—a delightful reflection of the picture with which the third act begins. Cleomenes, a Sicilian lord, remarks:

¹ Address read before the Iowa Library Association, at Marshalltown, October 23, 1928.

The climate's delicate, the air most sweet,
Fertile the isle, the temple much surpassing
The common praise it bears.

And Camillo, too, would

Purchase the sight again of dear Sicilia.

Seeing a three-mast schooner sailing
out of the harbor at Port Said, alive with
sailors climbing the rigging, my mind
harked back to a passage learned in my
youth, which I have since located in
Richard III. It reads:

O, momentary grace of mortal men,
Which we more hunt for than the grace of
God!

Who builds his hope in air of your fair looks
Lives like a drunken sailor on a mast;
Ready, with every nod, to tumble down
Into the fatal bowels of the deep.

To the credit of seamanship the world
over, there are no longer, as there were
in Shakespeare's time, any drunken
sailors on the mast, or even on shipboard.
Sailors may, and many do, continue to
have their orgies on shore; but before
they show up for duty on shipboard, they
must be sober and fit. And, as they near
a port of entry, they are lined up on
deck and examined before they are per-
mitted to take shore-leave.

I would not fail to pay my tribute of
respect to one of Shakespeare's subtlest
and greatest characters. I refer to
Prospero, prime mover in *The Tempest*,
the rightful Duke of Milan, who, put
adrift and wrecked upon an inhospitable
island, calls up spirits from the vasty
deep and bravely masters adverse fate.
I take pleasure in commending to you
librarians the one preëminent bookman
in the whole range of Shakespeare's im-
mortals! And let me remind you of the
fact that Shakespeare chose as his
mouthpiece one whose library was
"dukedom large enough."

After the shipwreck, Prospero, telling
his daughter, Miranda, the story of his
woes, recalls his brother's injustice, bit-
terly exclaiming:

Me, poor man!—my library
Was dukedom large enough.

Afterward, gratefully recalling a
Neapolitan's generosity in supplying the
exile's ship with food and other neces-
saries, Prospero adds:

So, of his gentleness,
Knowing I lov'd my books, he furnish'd me,
From mine own library, with volumes that
I prize above my dukedom.

And, farther on, noting the happiness
of Miranda and Ferdinand, Prospero,
hungry and therefore grouchy—ex-
claims:

I'll to my book,
For yet ere supper-time must I perform
Much business appertaining.

This lover of books is the one to whom
Shakespeare committed perhaps the
noblest combination of words that ever
emanated from his teeming imagination.
Let me leave with you the marvelous
picture.

Addressing his prospective son-in-law,
Ferdinand, who seemed dismayed by the
solemnity of the spirit revels he had
just witnessed, Prospero rallies him:

—Be cheerful, sir.
Our revels now are ended. These our actors,
As I foretold you, were all spirits, and
Are melted into air, into thin air;
And, like the baseless fabric of this vision,
The cloud-capp'd towers, the gorgeous palaces,
The solemn temples, the great globe itself,
Yea, all which it inherit, shall dissolve,
And, like this insubstantial pageant faded,
Leave not a rack behind. We are the stuff
As dreams are made on, and our little life
Is rounded with a sleep.

Then, coming down to earth, Pros-
pero, dismissing Ferdinand, with en-
forced calmness remarks:

—A turn or two I'll walk,
To still my beating mind.

In the last act, Prospero, deeming his
mission accomplished, resignedly ex-
claims:

—I'll break my staff,
Bury it certain fathoms in the earth,
And deeper than did ever plummet sound
I'll drown my book.

On our long voyage, every now and
then we passed a barren island, or group
of islands, marking some prehistoric up-
heaval. In one notable instance, on the
Indian Ocean, the wind bent a lone palm-
tree almost to the breaking point, and,
later, the tree and the whole island were
seemingly submerged by what we call a
cloudburst. The scene recalled the ex-
clamation of the jester Trinculo, no
longer in a mood for jesting, as he sur-

veyed the island on which *The Tempest* had wrecked his ship. Timidly looking about him, he complained:

Here's neither bush nor shrub to bear off any weather at all, and another storm brewing; I hear it sing i' the wind. . . If it should thunder as it did before, I know not where to hide my head.

While we journeyed on the Red Sea, looking down from the upper deck, watching that most interesting miniature world, the misnamed "second class passengers," pacing their deck or sitting in groups around some central figure—some man with a story to tell—I noted a turbaned brown-man, erect, dignified, very much alone in the crowd; and my mind flew back to the greatest treat of my young life when Edwin Forrest in the rôle of Othello paced the stage of Ford's Theatre, in Washington. I could easily imagine this lonely man, another Othello, awaiting the appearance of his Desdemona as witness for his defense. And as we skirted the rough and barren eastern shore, with Mount Sinai and a range of hills looming in the distance, my imagination fitted the scene into a background for Othello's vivid picture of his past wanderings in—

—Antres vast and deserts idle,
Rough quarries, rocks, and hills whose heads
touch heaven.

But my imagination somehow drew the line on Othello's

—Anthropophagi, and men whose heads
Do grow beneath their shoulders.

One day while we were on our way southeast from Aden to Colombo, after several days passed without a sail or smokestack in sight, there suddenly appeared on the southern horizon a steamer evidently in distress. Smoke was rising from all parts of the ship. Our captain, fearing an explosion might follow, signalled the steamer. It proved to be a British freighter, the "Ayrshire." In quick response to wireless messages, our steamer, the *Malwa*, drew near to render any assistance it might. The engines stopped and we held ourselves in readiness to take on the Ayrshire crew, should necessity compel them to leave the ship. Finally, another freighter hove in sight

having responded to the S. O. S. call; and, with this relief ensured, our steamer proceeded on her course.

When a few days later, our wireless bulletin announced that the British Admiralty had directed that the Ayrshire be sunk, to prevent explosion, my imagination pictured that great ship finding its last resting place in the bottom of the sea. I tried to recall that gruesome picture in *Richard III* but could remember only a phrase here and there. Here it is in part: You remember Clarence, a prisoner in the Tower "passed a miserable night, so full of fearful dreams." He thought he had fallen overboard. He exclaims, "O Lord! methought what pain it was to drown!"

And then he pictures the sights he saw:

I saw a thousand fearful wrecks;
A thousand men that fishes gnaw'd upon;
Wedges of gold, great anchors, heaps of pearl,
Inestimable stone, unvalued jewels,
All scatt'ed in the bottom of the sea.
Some lay in dead men's skulls; and, in the
holes
Where eyes did once inhabit, there were crept,
As 'twere in scorn of eyes, reflecting gems,
That woo'd the slimy bottom of the deep,
And mock'd the dead bones that lay scatt'ered
by.

How our landsman, Shakespeare, loved to dream of far-off oceans he had never traversed! Let me recall some of his many telling phrases—phrases which have new meaning to one who has studied the ocean's varying moods:

"The wild ocean," "the ocean's roaring tides," "the beachy girdle of the ocean," "the wild and wasteful ocean," "the ambitious ocean swell," "the angered ocean foams."

While "the ocean" and "the sea" are used as synonyms, the shorter word is the more frequently employed. Here are a few of Shakespeare's many sea phrases:

"Sea sorrow," "a sea change," "sea nymphs hourly ring his knell," "the sea mocks our frustrate search," "the never surfeited sea," "the raging sea," "the wayward sea," "as hungry as the sea," "the sea contagious," "the pageants of the sea," "a wild and violent sea," "the furrowed sea," "the deep-mouthed sea,"

"the vaulting sea," "the sea that sunders," "the grand sea," "our terrible seas," "the imperious sea," "environed with a wilderness of sea," "the rude sea that must forever hide me."

Now, let us quit the sea and, going back to Cherbourg, proceed by way of Paris, Genoa and Florence, to Rome—Rome so strongly visualized by one who, so far as we know, never crossed the English channel!

In All's well that ends well, the King of France salutes the English Bertram with the familiar words:

Welcome to Paris!

We, centuries later, found the welcoming hand of Paris still out, but extended chiefly by tradesmen, servants and common-carriers in anticipation of trade and tips!

We hasten on to Florence. As we rode past the ducal palace in Florence, a triumphal procession was moving thru the streets of the city. It was Italy's Armistice Day, and the army was out in full force to welcome the King of Italy and his queen. Standing at noon at the east entrance of one of the bridges, over the Arno, we saw the king and queen and his staff and the city officials motored past, and I remembered, in a general way, the triumphal entry of the French into Florence, with the Duke of Florence the city's unwilling host, as described in All's well that ends well.

You remember, the Duke receives the French lords in his palace; and, unable to learn from his guests "the fundamental reasons for this war," he assures his visitors that they are welcome with all honors, but—

To-morrow to the field.

And with a flourish, "exeunt all," the conference closes.

The same curiosity on the faces of the crowd—old men and women and young children and mothers with babies in their arms, as the king of to-day rode by,—as was seen on the faces of the populace centuries ago. Hear the old widow to her daughter Diana, in All's well that ends well. She hears the flourish of the trumpet near the entrance to the city:

Nay, come; for if they do approach the city, we shall lose all the sight.

Another flourish of trumpet in another direction, and the widow sorrowfully exclaims:

We have lost our labour; they are gone a contrary way: hark! you may know by their trumpets.

Then enters Helena, disguised as a pilgrim. The widow salutes her and inquires her destination. The gentlewoman answers:

To Saint Jaques le Grand.

She inquires where the palmers lodge. The widow answers:

At the Saint Francis here beside the port.

The widow offers to direct the stranger, but her curiosity detains her:

Hark you! they come this way.
If you will tarry, holy pilgrim,
But till the troops come by,
I will conduct you where you shall be lodged.

The drums sound: the colors are flying, and the populace of Florence is out to see the procession, no more and no less curious then than on this Armistice Day. The troops pass and the widow says:

Come, pilgrim, I will bring you
Where you shall host; of enjoin'd penitents
There's four or five, to great Saint Jaques
bound,
Already at my house.

As we rode past time-worn churches and homes of penitents and their ministrants, we could easily imagine the scenes portrayed by Shakespeare centuries ago as re-enacted again and again in our time. Meantime the historic Arno flows on unconscious of the heart-throbs of the throngs that daily linger on the Ponte Vecchio, stopping at the booths to bargain and gossip. The only evidence that the Florence of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries has passed into history is the newspaper booth on the bridge where late Italian dailies and month-old Sunday editions of the London and New York dailies are on sale.

But I have passed Genoa by. Let us return for a moment. On our second stop at Genoa, "the Superb," we put up for the night at a modern hotel that looks

down upon the giant statue of Columbus; for the old Genoa conservatively rejected the wild dream of her native son,—the dream of a round earth and a western passage to China and the Indies,—the city's present pride and boast is not so much her palaces and churches as the historic fact, that here in one of her obscure suburbs, the great discoverer of our Western World was born and reared and in his early manhood dreamed aloud to others his prophetic dream of a world beyond the western horizon which might be reached without the misadventures and dangers of the long and perilous voyage round the Cape of Good Hope, or the still more perilous land-journey thru the regions of "the terrible Turk."

But this is an aside. I have in mind to connect friend Shakespeare with Genoa by a slight incident. As we rode by moonlight thru the streets of Genoa, many of them narrow and thronged with men and women moving or grouped about some public place, I found myself studying the time-worn tavern signs, wondering, whether among the many small taverns in the narrower streets, there might not, even at this late date, be one ancient hostelry keeping up the tradition utilized by Shakespeare in *Taming of the Shrew*. Here is the reference:

The Pedant, happily meeting his old acquaintance, Baptiste, reminds his friend that he and Baptiste were fellow lodgers in "the Pegasus,"—

Near twenty years ago, in Genoa.

Let us for a moment look down upon Marseilles, the point of our departure on a thirty-one days' voyage to Shanghai.

Looking down from the picturesque height of Notre Dame de la garde, overlooking the city of Marseilles and its magnificent harbor, we see argosies from well-nigh every port in the world. I recall the boast of Gremio in *Taming of the Shrew*. Bidding for the hand of the young and beautiful Katherina, old Gremio promises her father, as compensation for his daughter's hand, not only land and ducats but also

An argosy
That now is lying in Marseilles' road.

But young Tranio goes his rival one better, assuring Baptiste that *his* father has no less than *three* great argosies, besides two galliases (vessels worked both by sails and oars). Then, you remember, the shrewish Kate had something spirited to say on the subject of the barter and sale of a daughter.

Going back to All's well that ends well, we are given a glimpse of Helena on a street in Marseilles. Her eagerness to convey a petition to the King of France, in camp at Rousillon, overcomes her regard for the social conventions of her day. She stops a stranger on the street and, finding him headed for Rousillon, persuades him to carry her message to the king. This he graciously consents to do. She thanks him heartily and re-mounts her horse. Seated in the parking on the city's main thoroughfare, we look in vain for replicas of the beautiful and romantic Helena of Shakespeare's play, and the only steeds we see amid the throng of automobiles are the mounts of cavalymen on their way to join the parade in commemoration of the French Armistice Day—a later date than Italy's. Standing on the sidewalks are many women and children in deep mourning. Sad reminder of "grim visaged war," their loved ones, as Falstaff bluntly styled them, "food for powder."

Now go back with me to Rome. Here in "the Eternal City" we find the great dramatist as a romantic historian at his best. Tho Shakespeare had never looked in on Rome, the tragic incidents and events which centered here in the time of the Caesars, and later, in the time of Coriolanus, made a profound impression upon his cosmic consciousness.

One Sunday morning we attended a nine o'clock mass in one of the chapels of St. Peter's and here, amid the splendors of that great cathedral, I recalled in a general way the date made by Juliet's mother, Lady Capulet, with the maiden's persistent wooer, the County Paris. Turning to the text, I find the match-making mother says:

Marry, my child, early next Thursday morn,
The gallant, young and noble gentleman,
The County Paris, at Saint Peter's Church,
Shall happily make thee there a joyful bride.

You remember Juliet's violent reaction—her great big oath! Hear her:

Now, by Saint Peter's Church and Peter too,
He shall not make me there a joyful bride.

Good for Juliet! say we all of us. But, it is not easy for us in free America and in this twentieth century of independence happily attained by our daughters in affairs of the heart, to comprehend the audacity of fourteen-year-old Juliet, thus stubbornly defying her mother and defying the tradition of hatred which for generations had existed between the Capulets and the Montagues.

But, if I have read modern history aright, there still exists in Italian as in Oriental and most other Old World families the same long-sanctioned custom of parent-arranged marriages; and, if modern Italian novelists, D'Annunzio, Figazzaro and the rest, are true historians of their age, there continues to be the same sad outcome—marital infidelities, enforced separations and tragic deaths.

As we rode thru the streets of Rome, I could see with my mind's eye the soul-stirring pictures drawn by the great dramatist. On my return home I made haste to re-read the immortal tragedy of Julius Caesar, and that less thrilling tragedy, Coriolanus, and I became more strongly affected than ever before with the vivid impressionism with which that noblest of literary impressionists enables the sojourner in Rome to re-live the life of the great Caesar, and that of the great commoner, Coriolanus.

Those were supreme moments in my long life. I felt, in some degree, as Walter Pater's Marius felt on crossing the Tiber, "as if some magic effect lay in that; tho here, in truth, the Tiber was but a modest enough stream of turbid water." And as he wended his way thru the historic streets of Rome, Marius became conscious of "some secret, constraining motive, ever on the alert at eye and ear, which carried him thru Rome as under a charm. . . ."

The culmination of charm was reached when we descended from the street to the partially excavated ruins of the Forum. It was but a five-minute walk from a modern automobile on a modern street down into the Past, redolent with suggestion of Cicero, and Caesar, Cassius, Brutus and Mark Antony.

Let me recall the dramatist's subtle approaches to the great tragedy.

Noting a handsome boy standing on the street above the ruins of the Forum, impatiently waiting the coming of a holiday procession, it was easy for one to slip back a few centuries and see the boy, Lucius, commanded by the anxious Portia to run in all haste to the Capitol and then back, bringing word as to the appearance of Brutus and "what Caesar doth, what suitors press to him."

And then comes the soothsayer, taking his stand on a street corner, To see him [Caesar] pass on to the Capitol.

Here the street is narrow;
The throng that follows Caesar at the heels,
Of senators, of praetors, common suitors,
Will crowd a feeble man almost to death:
I'll get me to a place more void—less likely to be crowded.

Another scene, skilfully heightening the interest in the supreme event which was to follow:

Flavius, Marullus, and a rabble of citizens are met in a public square, discussing the triumphal return of Caesar from the war. The reactionary Marullus, recalling the former triumphs of Pompey, exclaims:

What tributaries follow him [Caesar] to Rome,
To grace in captive bonds his chariot wheels?

His mind reverting to Pompey, he exclaims:

Many a time and oft
Have you climb'd up to walls and battlements,
To towers and windows, yea, to chimney-tops,
Your infants in your arms, and there have sat
The live-long day, with patient expectation,
To see great Pompey pass the streets of Rome:

And when you saw his chariot but appear,
Have you not made an universal shout,
That Tiber trembled underneath her banks, . . .

Flavius takes up the strain exhorting his countrymen:

Assemble all the poor men of your sort;
Draw them to Tiber banks, and weep your
tears
Into the channel, . .

Then follows the procession headed by Caesar,—and with all the pomp of a Mussolini's recent triumphal procession.

The same lively curiosity prompts the populace of Rome to climb the walls and battlements and fill the windows, and throng the streets, on every Roman holiday.

But to move on to the impending tragedy.

Cassius wins the confidence of Brutus, and the Tiber supplies him with an apt illustration of the weakness of the hero of the hour. You recall the familiar passage:

For once, upon a raw and gusty day,
The troubled Tiber chafing with her shores,
Caesar said to me, Darest thou, Cassius, now
Leap in with me into this angry flood,
And swim to yonder point? Upon the word,
Accoutred as I was, I plunged in
And bade him follow; so indeed he did.
The torrent roar'd, and we did buffet it
With lusty sinews, throwing it aside
And stemming it with hearts of controversy;
But ere we could arrive the point proposed,
Caesar cried Help me, Cassius, or I sink!
I, as Aeneas, our great ancestor,
Did from the flames of Troy upon his
shoulder

The old Anchises bear, so from the waves
of Tiber
Did I the tired Caesar.

Thus artfully are we led on to the tragic culmination, the assassination of Caesar in front of the Capitol, and the anti-climax in the Forum—the cleverly worded logic in justification of the assassination by Brutus, and the emotional eloquence of Mark Antony, with the swaying of the masses, swept to and fro by the appeals of their respective leaders,—altogether a masterpiece of mass-psychology.

Recalling these soul-stirring scenes, and standing amid the ruins of the Forum, in the august presence of those broken columns and crumbling walls, and the time-defying stone seats rising from floor to wall where the Roman populace was wont to assemble to hear the fate of men and institutions discussed, the story inimitably told by Shakespeare seemed re-invested with

life. I could see, and feel, the conflicting emotions with which the citizenry of old Rome were swayed by the protagonists in that great debate.

And now a word concerning "Coriolanus." As an introduction to the serious business of the later scenes, one Menenius discusses Coriolanus on a street in Rome, illustrating the soldier's marble immobility. He directs the gaze of Scenius to the corner-stone of the Capitol, and this is his apt illustration:

If it be possible for you to displace it with your little finger [then] there might be hope of a delegation of Roman ladies, headed by his mother, to prevail with Coriolanus.

Thus, by a striking figure of speech does our Shakespeare couple his Coriolanus with the venerable corner-stone upon which the enlightened traveler now gazes with more than idle curiosity,—with emotion akin to awe.

In the presence of the many august reminders of ancient Rome, our sojourn in the Eternal City gave us thrills rarely felt in the course of our varied travel experiences.

Truly, those were great moments when, with friend Shakespeare, we were permitted to stand in the shadow of the Forum and the Capitol, and with the mind's eye see "the great ones long gone by," and hear as with the modern radio, the voices of the dead—

Sound like a distant torrent's fall.

To friend Shakespeare the far-eastern ports we visited, Colombo, Penang, Singapore, Hong-kong and Shanghai, were so many unknown worlds. But, to the choice souls we found in those far distant cities—men and women who had brought with them from the western world the precious traditions of English literature,—to such, the plays and poems, the choice utterances and familiar phrases of King Shakespeare are confessedly among their richest possessions. I use the epithet "King Shakespeare" having in mind a favorite paragraph of mine from Carlyle's inspiring chapter, *The Hero as a man of letters*. Without wearying you with a labored attempt at a peroration, I close this literally rambling paper with Carlyle's noble tribute

to the universality of Shakespeare's genius, a tribute to which I was chiefly indebted for the suggestion which resulted in the writing of this paper. Says the Sage of Chelsea:

In America, in New Holland, east and west to the very Antipodes, there will be a Saxondom covering great spaces of the Globe. . . . Here, I say, is an English King, whom

no time or chance, Parliament or combination of Parliaments, can dethrone! This King Shakespeare, does not he shine, in crowned sovereignty, over us all, as the noblest, gentlest, yet strongest of rallying-signs; indestructible . . . We can fancy him as radiant aloft over all the Nations of Englishmen, a thousand years hence. From Paramatta, from New York, wheresoever, . . . English men and women are, they will say to one another: . . . This Shakespeare is ours. . . .

Letters—Information and Discussion

Radio Information

Reference to the multilateral treaty may be found in the following list of periodicals prepared by the American Library Association for the radio voters service of the National league of women voters:

The meaning of the Kellogg treaty, H. C. Lodge, *Harpers*, December, 1928.

Renunciation of war, F. B. Kellogg, *Review of Reviews*, December, 1928.

Speech on the anti-war treaty, A. Briand, *Current History*, October, 1928.

The effect of the anti-war treaty on American foreign policy, J. T. Gerould, *Current History*, October, 1928.

References to Farm relief in the short session, equalization fee, are as follows:

Books

University debaters annual, 1926-27 (This contains an outline for debate and a bibliography.)

Periodicals

Great farm rebellion: its cause and cure, *Forum*, February, 1925

The plight of the farmer, *Nation*, April 7, 1926

Mr Lowden discusses the farmer, *Outlook*, May 6, 1925

Fellowship Offered

The University of Chicago offers four fellowships of \$1000 each for the academic year 1929-30, to graduate library school students. Application must be in the hands of the Committee on fellowships and scholarships, University of Chicago, on or before March 1, 1929. Forms to be used in making application for admission may be obtained by writing to the Graduate library school, University of Chicago.

Exchanges Desired

The Metropolitan library, Peking, China, is desirous of entering into exchange relations with institutions of learning issuing publications suitable for a place in a Chinese reference library organized on modern lines. Thru this library, institutions interested in botany and zoölogy will be able to secure in exchange, publications of the recently organized Institute of Biology. It is now engaged in a biological survey of north China. Published results will undoubtedly be valuable and interesting.

Invitation to and for Help

At the Small libraries round-table at the A. L. A. conference at Washington, will be a question box. All those connected with small library service are invited to send in questions that they may wish to have answered. As many as possible will be discussed at the meeting. These questions should be sent to the chairman, M. Louise Hunt, Public library, Racine, Wisconsin, by April 15.

Seaman's Handbook for Shore Leave

Samuel Eliot Morison in his fascinating Maritime history of Massachusetts, makes it quite clear that the sailormen of the early days of the republic were on the whole an intelligent, well trained, and self respecting lot of men. If the men of our newer merchant marine are ever to approach the high standing of the earlier period, help of various kinds is needed. The Seaman's handbook for shore leave just published, in its third revised edition, by the American Mer-

chant Marine library association of 67 Wall Street, New York, N. Y., will contribute very materially to that most desirable result. A. M. M. L. A. as the society is known among its friends, in this handbook gives information about hotels, boarding houses, and seaman's homes, as to rates by the day or week, restaurants and eating houses. Banking and social service agencies are given, seaman's unions, and where to go for legal, medical and dental aid, and laundry facilities. Libraries are mentioned, exactly located with hints as to their use. Finally points of interest are enumerated with possible excursions, and condensed information about sights to be seen, and a word of caution on things to be avoided. The little volume is of interest to all who have the welfare of sailormen at heart but it makes a special appeal to librarians in seaport towns likely to come in contact with men who follow the sea.

H. H. B. MEYER

Washington, D. C.

Disappointed by Programs

The two meetings of University librarians at Chicago illustrate the apparent futility of complaints that have been made of library meetings during the last few years. (See LIBRARIES 33:516; 34:12 and other numbers following conventions) On Thursday, librarians were wandering aimlessly around trying to find the meeting place of college librarians as announced. Finally, they learned that the meeting was postponed until the following morning. Some came from a distance for this special meeting, not knowing that the time had been changed.

It is claimed that it is necessary to change the time of meetings because of the desirability of obtaining certain speakers. Why not recognize that the meetings are primarily for speakers instead of listeners? Why not have a section for speakers and confine in it those individuals who change programs, those individuals who talk for an hour and a half when 20 minutes are allowed; and also chairmen and officials who allow such things. We might also add to it

the speakers who read reports of committees which have been mailed to members three weeks before, or who take time even to summarize such reports. Then make a rule that none of the speakers shall leave until the program is entirely completed, if it ever is. What a punishment! Possibly J. C. D. is right when he says: We hate to read; we "love" to hear ourselves talk; and there may be even a few who resemble Tennyson's "babbling brook."

Yes, I'm peeved; I lost both time and money!

LISTENER

Who Wrote the Engine Stories?

In a "follow-up" of an inquiry as to the source of the "switch engine stories" which have been appearing somewhat anonymously for several years, it was asserted by a "lady from Philadelphia" that the author of them was on the editorial staff of the *Chicago Daily News*, Mrs F. M. Ford. This lady is well known in newspaper circles in Chicago so it was easy to make connection with her to substantiate the rumor. She is a very modest as well as a very busy woman and does much work that is particularly helpful in interesting children in things worth while.

A note of inquiry was sent her saying that these little "preachments" by various locomotives were favorites with those who knew them and that rumor said that they were her production. She was asked, therefore, to tell how these poems came to be written and what use had been made of them.

Mrs Ford graciously responded:

Replying to your letter, let me express my pleasure that you are interested in the "Switch Engine Stories," which I wrote several years ago. I was at that time the children's correspondent of "The Afternoon Club" of Philadelphia and I was required to supply a great many letters to children of different ages. The letters were based on:

I-Thought-I-Could
Keep-On-The-Track
Keep-Clean-Inside
I'll-Send-You-A-Letter

This last for a valentine.

Yours sincerely,

F. M. Ford, Editorial Staff

The Chicago Daily News

Monthly—Except August
and September

Libraries

216 W. Monroe Street
Chicago, Illinois

Mary Eileen Ahern, Editor

Subscription - - - - -	\$3 a year	Five copies to one library - - -	\$12 a year
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By the rules of the banks of Chicago, an exchange charge of 10 cents is made on all out-of-town checks for \$10 and under. In remitting subscriptions, therefore, checks on New York or Chicago banks or postoffice money-orders should be sent.

When a change of address is ordered, both the new and the old address must be given. The notice should be sent two weeks before the change is to take effect.

If a subscriber wishes his copy of the magazine discontinued at the expiration of his subscription, notice to that effect should be sent. Otherwise it is assumed that a continuance of the subscription is desired.

Copies failing to reach subscribers, through loss in the mails, will be duplicated without charge if request to do so is received within 30 days after publication. Later than that duplicate copies can be supplied only at market prices.

Contributions for current numbers of **LIBRARIES** should be in hand by the fifteenth of the month previous to the appearance of the magazine. Advertisements for which proof is not required can be accepted as late as the twenty-second of the previous month.

Preserving Historical Records of the Present

IT IS a matter of regret and some surprise that so few large libraries of all kinds, institutional, university and public libraries especially, have failed to support the movement inaugurated by three metropolitan newspapers,¹ of printing special editions on rag paper for libraries and others who realize the value of preserving these publications as genuine pictures of world conditions, for the future information of students and scholars.

In the material of most of the libraries existing today is plain evidence of the fact that books, pamphlets and particularly newspapers printed on wood pulp paper do not last beyond a limited period. Newspapers and periodicals of 30 years ago printed on wood pulp paper treated with sulphite will not bear handling today. How much less will they bear handling, if indeed they are in existence, in 60 years.

There is not sufficient appreciation of the opportunity offered by the very few publishers of newspapers and magazines. One might be justified in calling it a dereliction of duty by those charged with preserving the printed records of today

when such custodians fail to take advantage of the opportunity offered to preserve for the use of the future, the records of passing events.

The excuse that much that is included in these publications is not of value is an assumption of judgment that is hardly justifiable. A moment's reflection on the pages of the history of every human effort will show how unjustifiable such judgments are. Things that were judged of little moment, of small extent, 100 years ago bulk large in the development of that in every line of human activity today.

But be that as it may, it cannot be denied that the good newspaper does reflect almost photographically, the manners, customs, ideas, important events as well as non-important ones—the real aspects of life as it is in this year of 1929. How futile is the service of that public servant who assays to determine for himself that this special part of what constitutes his duty to his day is of no value.

To say that the acquirement by subscription of publications intended for preservation by being printed on lasting paper is too expensive, at once vitiates the reasons for buying those that were

¹The Daily, Washington, New York Times, Chicago Daily Tribune.

published hundreds of years ago. In view of the permanency of the material on which such things were printed, these very ancient publications which are being collected are likely to be in existence for a long time to come, while the publications of today are disintegrating before the very eyes of their custodians without seeming to cause the latter any disquietude.

One may question the reliability of the judgment of one who allows such a thing

to happen on the mere excuse of expense.

The amount asked for is very moderate. Indeed, it may be questioned as to whether it would cover the full expense, and gives room to appreciate not only the realization on the part of the publishers of the value of what they are doing for future generations, but also their patriotic spirit in making it possible thru their own contribution to the production of these permanent records.

A New Editor, a New Dress for Library Journal

Announcement of the appointment of Miss Bertine Weston as successor to Miss Duncan in the editorial management of the *Library Journal* is a matter of congratulation for all concerned. Miss Weston is an eastern woman by birth and upbringing and tho her years are still on the youthful side in calculation, she has had a wide experience in the library field which gives her a desirable preparation for the new work she undertakes.

A strong and pleasant personality, an abundance of physical health, the charm of youth and an understanding mind will be brought to the service of the

readers of the *Library Journal*. A cordial and sincere welcome is extended by *LIBRARIES* to its new colleague.

The *Library Journal*, by the way, has again assumed a new dress. It is comely, it is becoming, it is attractive, it is appropriate. *LIBRARIES* may say all this with propriety because the new dress so closely resembles the covering worn by *LIBRARIES* for the last four years. It may have the value, too, of obliterating to the casual observer any non-essential difference that may exist between *LIBRARIES* and its honorable colleague. Both are worthy of support.

Only One Ticket Offered A. L. A. Membership

THE announcement to the A. L. A. Council by the Nominating committee that they would not submit more than one name for each office to be filled by election was received by those present with a silence capable of several interpretations. It might be indifference, might signify astonishment or not knowing who or what was involved, might express acquiescence.

The announcement has created a bit of surprise among some for they remember how strenuously was it presented several years ago that in so large a membership, there should be a more wide-spread interest in the choice of the officials and

this could be brought about by proposing more nominations for each office, which would give members a chance of knowing personally a larger number of those named. It certainly increased the number of ballots cast and the work of the tellers.

There are some who say that having only one nomination eliminates disappointed feelings, but does it? Would it not be better to have at least three or, perhaps, more names so that there would be two defeated nominees? Misery loves company. Is the A. L. A. a democratic body or is it a close corporation, or is it governed by an unwritten constitution?

Not Ready to Report

AT THE time of closing the forms, the A. L. A. Headquarters was not ready to release the report of the nominating committee, so it is not possible to give the announcement at this time. Librarians have become accustomed to knowing the candidates for the next year about this time and rather expect to receive the information accordingly, but "there is no report ready."

Is it because no one could be induced to serve his professional colleagues or was a particularly desirable member reluctant? In 10,000 members, it does not seem that either of these reasons would be sufficient for delay. Certainly not,

when such names as are attached to work well done over many years,—Ranck, Gerould, Koopman, Keogh, Wilson, Wright, Martel, Bowerman, Mitchell, Severance, Drake, Paine, Guerrier, Templeton, Shearer, McCollough and dozens of others who, while not figuring in the "light that beats upon a throne," still recall members that have shown in one way or another, ability not inferior to some who have done well in the several offices they have occupied.

The report of the nominating committee will come in later, but too late for use here. But those named are certain to be acceptable.

A State Library Building for Indiana

Library circles of Indiana are planning to ask the legislature which is in session, to provide a tax levy of one cent on each \$100 of taxable property for the next two years to raise money for a new State library building. It is estimated that \$1,000,000 would be raised thru the levy, which sum is considered adequate for the construction of the library. The proposed plan would make the money available in 1930-31.

Under the terms of the measure, the governor would appoint a commission of four members to choose the location for the building. Two possible plans have been suggested. The first would provide for the building to be near the present statehouse. The other stipulates that it shall be on or near the World War Memorial plaza.

The bill provides for choice of an architect under the competitive rules of the American Institute of Architects.

It is said that approximately \$1,000,000 worth of books and pamphlets are housed in cramped quarters on the second floor of the statehouse and are in constant danger of fire or damage.

Both political parties endorsed the move for a new State library building in their 1928 party platforms.

Its 40 years of good service to the educational interests of the state entitles Indiana state library to the recognition it deserves, adequate and fitting quarters in which to carry on its valuable work.

The librarians of the state can be helpful in the matter by making the need for the building clear to their own members of the legislature.

A new plan has been adopted by the Literary Guild of America in regard to the book which its subscribers are entitled to each month. If the latter does not choose to keep the book sent him, it may be returned within a week and he may select a former Guild choice to replace the returned book at no extra charge. If he chooses a book that has not been sponsored by the Guild, by deducting the value of the returned book from the retail price of the book wanted and sending the difference with his request, the new book will be sent postpaid.

This ought to be a very acceptable proposition, particularly to those who are distant from book centers where wide opportunity is given to make a personal decision with regard to books. It also seems to remove the only really valid objection to the very convenient plan offered by the Literary Guild.

William Dawson Johnston—1871-1928

Friends die . . . but a good repute never dies.

The original quotation has the word *ordstirr*, and in my helplessness I translate it *repute*. It means, literally, "the word which goes about." Words are powerful, the most effective of all forces. And the word which stirs about William Dawson Johnston, now gone from our circle—that word, indeed, will call forth all our best effort, all sincerity and purity of heart.

Dr Johnston died in Washington, on November 18, 1928, from the *sequelae* of an operation. He was born in Essex Center, Vermont, in 1871. The "seventy-ones" are the most exclusive and remarkable group of librarians. We met in the Library of Congress and there acquired a method, an outlook, which determined the character of all the work we were permitted to do in later years. Johnston was the historian among us. He was graduated from Brown University and later engaged in post-graduate work at Harvard. Early in his career, his work took a bibliographical turn, and he naturally found a place in the Bibliography division of the Library of Congress.

The L. C. as a practical school of librarianship conferred incalculable benefit upon the students who came, with faltering steps and high hopes, to find their place in a great system of education. Dr Johnston remained a true and faithful alumnus. He then went to Columbia University and later to the St Paul public library. Somehow, we do not remember the sympathies of "the group of seventy-one" stirring strongly in favor of these two institutions after Dr Johnston's time; we did not see Columbia and St Paul clearly until long after.

After having shared with enthusiasm in the War Service, Dr Johnston became librarian of the American Library of Paris and served there from 1921 to 1925, when he re-entered his connection with his old alma mater, the Library of Congress, as her official representative in Europe. He returned to Washington to carry out the survey of special collections in American libraries.

In February, last, I met him again, after long years of geographical separation. He took a chair beside me at the famous Round Table, and while conversation played about us, said quietly: "Let me hear your voice."

I said: "Isn't it fine to be back in the Land of the Free?"

He agreed heartily: "And in the good old L. C."

His interest in his new task was great. Those who listened carefully to his explanations of the special collections survey at the West Baden conference, were impressed with his earnestness of purpose and his intelligent penetration of the inquiry, to which Dr Putnam, in his inimitable way, paid an appropriate tribute.

Always frail-looking, Dr Johnston possessed a large measure of nervous energy, prompted by enthusiasm. His points of view were determined wholly by his ideals. His philosophy recognized only the perfect expression of professional aims and results. His voice had an undertone of conscientious sincerity, which, emphasized by his physical bearing, never failed to make its appeal in kindred minds.

A wise worker, this man possessed a fund of literary knowledge and bibliographical insight, such as made him welcome among historical and literary scholars and bibliographers everywhere. Without a doubt—well, if he had been supported by administrative wisdom everywhere, as he was in the Library of Congress, Dr Johnston probably would have made that appeal to a wider academic circle, by which he is known among us. Administration, among other things, implies firm protection of our ideals against intrigue and the assurance of a peaceful working day. It also means to create opportunities for personal initiative, the unfolding of scholarly efforts. . . .

But we must not philosophize. Still, when a good man dies, one cannot help drawing a corollary. Our millions of books call for scholarly devotion as well as for practical aggressiveness and diplomacy. Whichever of these powers

prevails in administration, it should protect its complements.

Dr Johnston seemed born to be a university librarian of the scholarly type which his life reflects. His tolerance and his fine grace are remembered in the treatment which he accorded his staff in St Paul. Every fiber of his being bore the mark of constructive and refined mental energy. I seem to remember best our discussions of relative values of historical sources. If this knowledge, gained by years of patient research, could have been focused into an organized exposition, we should have welcomed it. Now, his most mature work has entered into the sum-total of scholarly research in the Library of Congress. Is this not privilege enough? Dr Johnston would agree that it is so, indeed.

J. CHRISTIAN BAY

The John Crerar library
Chicago.

The sudden death of Dr William Dawson Johnston at the age of 57 removes one who did a great work for bibliography, reflecting itself in librarianship in the United States and, perhaps, a still greater work as an inspiring force. As an instructor in history at the University of Michigan, 1894-97, and at Brown, 1899-1900, he was laying the foundation of his bibliographic attainments.

This first bibliography contribution appears as *Titles of books on English history*, selected and annotated, published in 1897-98. This appeared in the annual report of the American Historical Association for 1900. To the Cambridge edition of Macaulay's *History of England*, edited by Henry Dwight Sedgwick, Jr., he contributed a bibliographical appendix of 26 pages. During his early residence in Washington, he became interested in the history of American libraries. He contributed to the *Columbia Historical Society Records* for 1904, *Early history of the Washington library company and other local libraries*, and to the *Records* for 1906, *The earliest free public library movement in Washington, 1849-74*. His great work of this period, however, was his *History of the Library of Congress, Volume I, 1800-64*, published by the Government in 1904. It was intended to

form the first of a series of contributions to American library history under the editorship of Dr Johnston. His next undertaking was to edit for the *Classification of the Library of Congress*, Class G: Geography, anthropology, sports and games, and Class J, political science, published in 1910, and Class L, education, 1911. The work by which he is widest known among his fellow librarians and bibliographers is the volume which he edited with Isadore G. Mudge, entitled *Special collections in libraries in the United States*, published by the Bureau of Education as its *Bulletin*, 1912, no. 23. In his bibliographical work Dr Johnston was notable for two qualities, first his insistence on accuracy and secondly his great breadth of interest.

It would not be fair to close this sketch without a reference to Dr Johnston as librarian. He belongs distinctly in the creative class. His career at Columbia was followed with interest and profit by all his colleagues, and the fact that Columbia should have allowed him to lay down this great work must ever remain among the mysteries of library history. Columbia's loss was St Paul's gain. Later in his four years' service at the American Library in Paris, he represented in the best possible fashion, American librarianship to Europeans.

At Columbia, one of his first acts was the establishment of an annual meeting of eastern college librarians on the Saturday following Thanksgiving. At the meeting in December of this year, Mr Hicks, who had been associated with him both at Washington and Columbia, paid a glowing tribute to the high qualities of his friend and former chief. This was the twentieth meeting of the association, which, tho not limited to one place of meeting, has always desired to meet at Columbia, and has always been hospitably welcomed there. These meetings have proved equal in importance to any annual gatherings of American college librarians. In founding them, Dr Johnston was unconsciously building himself a living monument.

HARRY LYMAN KOOPMAN
Brown University library
Providence, R. I.

Dr Putnam has received the following letter which he is glad to share with Dr Johnston's friends:

League of Nations
International Institute
of Intellectual Coöperation
Paris, December 4, 1928.

My dear Dr Putnam,

We have just received the painful news of the loss which the Library of Congress has sustained through the death of Mr. Dawson Johnston and I wish at once, both on my own behalf and that of my fellow-workers, to send you a message of very sincere sympathy.

We lose in him not only a valued collaborator who gave most helpful service on two of our expert Committees, but also one of the precious band of those, unhappily still too limited in number, who are familiar, from practical experience, with the conditions of intellectual life on the two sides of the Atlantic. His wide knowledge, his sound judgment, his unselfishness and his readiness at all times to be of service to his European colleagues won him the respect and appreciation of all who had dealings with him and will leave a lasting memory among us.

I would be grateful if you would convey to the American National Committee of Intellectual Coöperation, at its next meeting, our sense of the loss which we have sustained.

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

JULIEN LUCHAIRE,
The Director.

Pensions for Librarians

The subject of pensions for library employees is receiving considerable attention as witnessed by discussions in the public press in various places throuout the country.

In Boston, according to newspaper reports, each library employe contributes four per cent of his regular compensation to a pension fund. The city makes contributions of two kinds—the first to take care of those joining the system currently, the second to take care of those whose service began before the establishment of the system.

Retiring Boston library employes get an annuity based on what they have contributed to the fund, plus a pension, which comes out of the city's contributions. The whole amounts to approximately one-half their salary at retirement. All an employe has paid in is returned to him should he wish to disassociate himself from the service.

At the time of the establishment of the Boston retirement system, membership was optional for those already employed in any branch of the city or county service; compulsory for those who entered such service later.

Retirement at 60 years of age is voluntary, under this system; at 70, automatic.

Library's Aid to Poetry

The Stevenson room of the Cleveland public library has an organization called the Stevenson Room poetry group. It is a gathering of young people who want to write poetry. This desire has been fostered by the department and has afforded an opportunity for such young people to come together at the Public library every other week of the school year, to discuss every aspect of poetry, to hear it read and to criticize and enjoy. The attendance varies from five to eighteen.

Poetry of other countries is studied. The discussion and comradeship made possible has given much of that happiness that lies in free and honest expression, whatever the medium. Preludes to poetry, is the title under which a considerable lot of the poetry produced has been issued in an exceedingly creditable pamphlet "dedicated to Linda A. Eastman, who made the group possible." If nothing more is ever done, the garland of praise has been earned by the present progress.

The National association of Audubon societies is making an effort to induce teachers and others interested in the subject of birds and their usefulness, to form junior Audubon clubs for bird study. The offer of the National organization is attractive and is one of the things that might be interesting for children's rooms in libraries in the early springtime. During the school year, 1927-28, 306,310 junior Audubon members enrolled up to June 1, 1928. The colored plates accompanying the literature are most attractive. Thru the generosity of its friends, the national association is again able to furnish large numbers of colored bird pictures and leaflets to school teachers.

The League of Nations Publications¹

Librarians who would find their way about in the classification and arrangement of League of Nations publications have two beacon lights to guide them. The first is the arrangement of all the publications not periodical into 13 classes, and another, called General questions. These are designated by Roman numerals. Classes I, VI, and XII are divided into A and B respectively. "General" has no Roman numeral but is written as such. It would be well to memorize these classes for they are always the same, e.g., II is "Economic and financial," III is "Health," and so on. It is hoped that the League will never change these for they were begun with some of the first publications and have been used consistently since 1926. They allow for expansion logically by the method of subdivision already begun and can also go on numerically.

The two catalogs of publications, issued November 1, 1925, and November 1, 1927, followed by monthly supplements, make up the second beacon light. Previous catalogs have been issued but none as complete as these, which may be used for checking the library's holdings. Like any other publisher, the League of Nations has not included in its catalogs, items no longer available. If a new catalog were issued including these, it would be possible for the League to designate the proper class for all publications previous to 1926 which appeared without the Roman numeral. As it is now, libraries have put these where it seemed best, but an official designation would mean that they would be treated alike in all libraries.

Since the resolutions of the college and reference and the catalog sections of the A. L. A. were passed, a sub-committee headed by Mr Sevensma, librarian of the League of Nations, has been working out details along the lines suggested in the resolutions. "Appointed to study the simplification of the numbering system and classification of the League publications," it is working along lines that

agree essentially with the tenor of the resolutions. In the matter of periodical publications is the recommendation that "there should be attached to the last number of any of these publications issued in any year, a title-page and a table of contents prepared by the Secretariat." Among other recommendations is an important point, namely, that the official numbering should be entirely disregarded by purchasers of League of Nations documents. These have a meaning for administrative purposes only, e.g., A means Assembly delegates, C, Council, C. M., Council and States members, etc. They have been especially confusing when the sales numbers, I-XIII, have been omitted. The Sub-Committee further recommends that the Roman numerals showing the class of the document and called the "sales number," should stand out clearer, and should always be in the same place. Another recommendation in line with the A. L. A. resolutions is that the Secretariat publish annually a title-page and table of contents for every category of documents on sale, the table of contents to mention numbers cancelled or altered.

In presenting the resolutions of the college and reference and the catalog sections to the A. L. A. Council, acknowledgement of the work of this sub-committee was made.

ALICE CHARLTON

The John Crerar library
Chicago

A "sprig of help" that will be of interest to some library workers is the definition of library fiction offered by May Lamberton Becker:

To qualify as "library fiction," a novel must have such marked qualities of vitality, craftsmanship, feeling and sincerity, that a librarian can have a definite feeling of satisfaction in handing it out over the desk to a reader. Negatively it may be defined as not a novel of which it could be said that it wouldn't really matter if it had never been written or published or if no one ever read it.

Culture is that discipline of mind and character that enables one to recognize and enjoy the best, and to say and do the suitable thing.

¹ Prepared for mid-winter meeting of the A. L. A. Council.

The New United States Catalog¹ A Useful Book for Everyone

In the huge volume, United States Catalog of books in print January 1, 1928, may be found the author, if known, title, publisher, date and price of every book now obtainable in the United States.

The catalog has innumerable uses for the reader and buyer as well as being an invaluable aid to the bibliographer, librarian and bookseller. The works in print of a favorite author may be traced, editions and prices compared and publishers located.

Thousands of publishers' lists have gone into its making. Universities and societies and some of the state governments have contributed lists of their publications; American houses importing British books have sent catalogs of importations; and Canadian works, excluding French Canadian, have been included where there is no United States edition. Federal Government documents in general, which have been made available thru indexes and lists published by the Superintendent of Documents, have not been repeated here, but the publications of the Library of Congress, Smithsonian Institution, National Museum, Bureau of American Ethnology and several reference books seldom thot of as documents and many bibliographies are listed.

All of these have been arranged in one alphabetic list, cataloged by author, subject and title—a catalog of 3,164 pages, each with three columns closely packed, but so well arranged that with the further aid of black-face type used for subject headings, authors and the first word of titles, the eye can pick up the desired entry with remarkable ease. A complete list of publishers supplements the catalog of books, while an abridgement of this list is conveniently placed inside the front cover, opposite which are pertinent "suggestions for finding the book you want in the United States Catalog."

MATHILDE D. WILLIAMS
Reference librarian

¹From *Bulletin of Public Library*, Washington, D. C.

Is Philosophy a Popular Subject?

When the department of philosophy and religion was created in the Los Angeles public library about a year ago, it was presumed that the number of readers of these heavy subjects would be comparatively small. Seating capacity for less than 50 people was provided. But within three months it was discovered that every chair in the room was occupied and a number of people had to stand. Now there are 85 chairs in the room, and the most of these are occupied all day and evening.

Retired as well as active ministers find a quiet spot where they may read and write. Business men come in the evening and seek the philosophy shelves. The 41 copies of Durant's *Story of philosophy* are still being reserved by request postcards; doubtless this book has stimulated the requests for other histories of philosophy.

The average monthly circulation of books in philosophy, including psychology and ethics, during the first year that the books have been separated from General literature, has been 5115.

College students, who may read philosophy from compulsion, are not the only ones who deplete the Plato shelves. Of the 77 volumes and copies of Plato's works in the Main library, only three or four volumes may be found on the shelves.

The books in 131, on the influence of the mind on the body, are by far the most popular collection in the department. Those who are seeking peace, success, freedom from fear, disease, and poverty haunt these shelves; and many who ask for psychology really wish this type of book. An experiment in displaying worthy substitutes for some of these books on wishful thinking, and labeling the collection "Power," has resulted in the circulation of every copy of Cabot's *What men live by*, and the increased popularity of Groves' *Personality* and social adjustment, Austin's *Everyman's genius*, Pierce's *Our unconscious mind* and how to use it, and others.

A "List of popular books on psychology" compiled by the department, for

many months kept all copies in circulation of Dewey's Human nature and conduct, Martin's Psychology, Woodworth's Psychology, and others.

When the department was opened, some of the university professors offered to give lectures on philosophical subjects, as a bit of community service. The first year only a seminar room holding 100 people was available, but at each of the eight lectures given, all seats were taken and 10 or more stood thru the whole hour, listening to discourses on William James, A. N. Whitehead, Josiah Royce, or Borden P. Bowne.

This year a more comprehensive course of 14 lectures has been planned, to give the story of philosophy from its beginning in the Occident thru the Middle Ages. The lecturers are professors in the universities in southern California, who have made a life study of their subjects. It is probable that nowhere else in the world is there such a "Community school of philosophy" where any one who wishes, may attend.

The subjects of the lectures are:

- What is philosophy?
- Greek pioneers
- Socrates and Plato, the founders of idealism
- Aristotle, the master of those who know
- St Augustine and the Mediaeval church
- Abelard and the rise of European universities
- St Thomas Aquinas and scholasticism
- Dante, the poet of Mediaeval civilization
- Descartes and the Renaissance
- Spinoza, the God-intoxicated
- Leibnitz and the theory of monads
- Locke, the founder of modern empiricism
- Berkely and the new idealism
- Hume and radical empiricism

The lecture room containing 400 chairs has been used, and each night the room is filled to capacity. After hearing a lecture on Greek pioneers, or Plato, or Aristotle, the listeners remark as they go out, "This is the real thing," "How grateful we are to the library for making these lectures available."

The books on the subject of the evening are taken to the lecture room and charged on reader's cards at the close of the lecture. Book lists are also distributed.

The audiences are composed of men and women, young, middle-aged and white-haired. There are many business

men, men from newspaper offices, printers, even laborers; and some college students. When opportunity is given for questions, there is an eager response.

In a center where astrology, numerology, spiritualism, new thot and many other forms of "sciosophy" are rife, it is a hopeful sign to see lectures on the world's great thinkers eagerly attended.

FAITH E. SMITH

Los Angeles public library
Los Angeles, California

Books of Jewish Interest

An exhibit typifying Hanukah, the feast of lights, was arranged at the South Portland branch library of Portland, Oregon. The light and joy of the feast was represented by menorahs (branched candelabra), and an antique hanging lamp. A rare map of Palestine, an old tallith (prayer shawl), a mizrah (a biblical historical picture), a copy of a famous painting which hangs in the synagogue in Mannheim, Germany, a mezuzah, miniature scrolls of the torah, historical postcards taken from famous Jewish historical paintings in the old worlds and a collection of choice books of Jewish interest was displayed.

A list of the books that were placed with the exhibit will be given to anyone who wishes to have it.

The *Boston Transcript* of December 8 carried an interesting article by Fanny Goldstein, librarian, West End Branch, Public library, under the title, Chanukah lights and suitable books. Included, are books of Jewish interest recently published, with a few religious contributions of greater permanence.

An interesting set of books of the best known Hebrew classics from the earliest time to latest modernity has been issued by Dvir, Palestine. It is said to be a highly excellent interpretation of Judaism. The contents cover poetry, belle lettres, Palestine and Hebrew history, while at the same time an elaborate study of things Jewish in the fourth set makes a source of ready reference and general knowledge of things Jewish. The set consists of 18 volumes and is handled in the United States by the Moriah Book Co., 46 Canal Street, New York City.

The New Library for Fisk University

A library building with few equals in the South will be erected on the campus of Fisk University, Nashville, Tenn., as the result of a \$400,000 gift by the Rockefeller General Education Board. Half of this sum is to be used for the building and the other half is to start a permanent endowment. Henry C. Hibbs, Nashville architect, has designed the building, which will be modernized Gothic with a 100 foot tower and an ultra-modern interior equipment rivalled by few college libraries.

The plans are the result of consultation with library experts all over the country. Among those who have contributed suggestions are Dr Williamson and Professor Reece of Columbia University, Dr Bishop of the University of Michigan, and Mr Lydenberg, assistant director of the New York public library. In addition, the plans were taken to the Southeastern library conference and to the American Library Association mid-winter meeting for criticism, and while there was a great variety of opinion and an equal division on the comparative merits of the vertical and horizontal stacks, the prevailing opinion favored vertical stacks.

The structure, of red-face brick trimmed in Indiana limestone, is to be the feature of the campus and is to occupy a central position facing the Fisk Memorial Chapel. Its tower will reach 100 feet upwards and will be the central section. A frontage of 170 feet will face the chapel and there will be two stories in each wing extending from the tower. Reinforced concrete and steel construction will be used thruout.

On the first floor, a unique arrangement of the loan desk has been worked out whereby supervision of the large reading rooms, one in each wing, is possible. One room is for reserve books only and the other is a general reference room, each with seating for 100 readers. The second floor will contain the browsing room equipped with a fireplace, easy chairs and accommodation for 100 readers, a periodical room and a special Negro collection room to which scholars may come for source material. A music

room containing scores and a sound proof piano room will be placed on the mezzanine floor, above which will rise the tower with book stacks for a capacity of 300,000 volumes. The stacks will be connected with the delivery desk by chutes and a teletype machine. Provision for seminars and individual research carrels has been made in the tower. There is also provision for a vault, staff room, debaters' quarters and stacks in the basement. The librarian's office and work-room are directly behind the delivery desk.

Construction of the new building is to begin at once and is to be completed by September, 1930. The present library building, a Carnegie structure, is to be converted into a social science building.

LOUIS S. SHORES
Librarian

Fisk University
Nashville, Tenn.

A Precious Gift

The New York public library has received a gift from Edward S. Harkness, one of its trustees, of a manuscript of the four Gospels carefully penned in Latin more than a thousand years ago, during the reign of Alfred the Great.

The ancient volume, according to the *New York Times*, is composed of 150 vellum leaves. It came from a collection in England and is pronounced by Dr A. S. W. Rosenbach of Philadelphia, one of the great manuscripts of the world. Despite its great age, the manuscript shows no signs of decay. The vellum pages are still stiff and strong, the careful lettering is perfectly clear, and the colors of the illustrations have faded but little. The ancient pages are encased in a seventeenth century blue velvet binding. The manuscript was written about 850 and has marginal note on one page in Latin written in Anglo-Saxon characters—an item of excessive rarity. There is much ornamentation thruout the volume.

Words make a deeper scar than silence
can ever heal.

Proposed County Library Law for Iowa

Three principal changes in the law now governing the creation of county libraries are proposed for submission to the Iowa legislature by library interests of Iowa. It is proposed to rewrite the county library law to read as follows:

To give boards of supervisors authority to establish county libraries on their own initiative.

To make the creation of a county library mandatory on the part of the boards of supervisors when a petition signed by a designated number of citizens is presented to the board asking for a county library.

When contracts between county boards and libraries are entered into for the creation of county libraries, such contracts should include all contributing libraries in cities and towns, except those which are supported by an existing tax. Where a levy for the creation of the county library is made, it would not apply to cities or towns supporting libraries by a tax.

What Constitutes a Good Trustee

The good trustee

- 1) Secures reasonable and adequate support for the library.
- 2) Interprets the library to the community.
- 3) Employs an efficient administrative head.
- 4) Does not interfere with administrative details, but holds librarian responsible.
- 5) Formulates the policies of the library, and plans for expansion of service.
- 6) Attends board meetings *regularly*.
- 7) Attends state and national meetings occasionally.
- 8) Has some knowledge of the work done in other libraries.

An Opportunity to Secure Lists

The Enoch Pratt free library, Baltimore, Md., is publishing circulars and book lists which other libraries will find worth purchasing for local distribution with their own imprint. Libraries using the same sort of material would find it a wonderfully satisfactory and inexpensive way of procuring book lists. The work is almost ready for moving and orders should be sent in, even if in a general form, to meet the date of printing, February 10.

Use of Adjectives

It is said that readers of Albert J. Beveridge's *Abraham Lincoln* (Houghton) will have difficulty in detecting the use of adjectives in it because the author purposely avoided recourse to them. "Adjectives are emergency medicine" he believed, "and must be given sparingly and seldom, like strychnine and other powerful stimulants. Adjectives often employed mean little or nothing. They are drugs that blur vision in the reader and save the writer the toil of description. The great authors were not victims of the adjective habit. For example, Homer did not say that Helen of Troy was 'A beautiful woman'."

A Study in Proportion

In 1928, Atlanta appropriated \$2,588,000 and employed 1441 people for the 57,000 of its citizens of teen age or under.

At the same time, Atlanta spent \$118,000 and employed 41 people in providing book service to 62,472 citizens of both teen and adult age who looked to the library for books that would enable them to keep abreast of newly discovered knowledge.

Atlanta has spent millions of dollars in physical equipment for schools for her citizens of the teen ages in order that they might be taught the tools of learning.

Atlanta has spent less than \$24,000 for library buildings where the material is found for making use of the tools of learning taught in the schools.—*Library report*.

A Literary Calendar

January—Select a list of 12 books you have always meant to read
 February—Read one of them
 March—Read another
 April—Ditto
 May—Ditto
 June—Ditto
 July—Ditto
 August—Ditto
 September—Ditto
 October—Ditto
 November—Ditto
 December—Read the other two

R. M.

The book that degrades our intellect, vulgarizes our emotions, kills our faith in our kind, and in the eternal power, is an immoral book; the book that stimulates thought, quickens our sense of humor, gives us deeper insight into life, a finer sympathy with men and women, and a firmer belief in their power to realize a divine ideal, is a moral book, tho its subject matter have as wide a range as life itself.—*Corinne Bacon*.

A Pan American Bibliographical Conference

The sixth annual conference of American states, held at Havana in February, 1928, adopted a resolution, "That the organization of a bibliography for the American continent is a greatly felt need for the intellectual progress of America . . . and for the solidarity of that which is . . . one of the strongest bonds of union between the nations of America." It recommended the assembling of "a Technical Commission made up of expert bibliographers from the various American countries." It charged the Pan American Union with arranging for the conference, formulating the program and fixing place and date, and "the duty of putting into practice the plan of inter-American coöperation" that may be suggested by the national "technical commission."

Carrying out the instructions of the Havana conference, the Pan American Union has begun the organization of the Inter-American bibliographical conference by adopting resolutions establishing a permanent committee and authorizing the Director-General of the Pan American Union to consult with "technical experts in bibliographical work" and "take all necessary steps" for the meeting, including a request to the governments of the member states to appoint technical coöperating committees for each country and to prepare each a survey of the bibliographical situation in its country.

Following these resolutions, the Director-General established an advisory committee of technical experts and issued a request to the Pan American states to appoint technical coöperating committees and to prepare brief surveys of the bibliographical situation.

Five or six states, including the United States of America, have already responded, Guatemala being the first to send in both names of the committee and an admirable survey.

The Advisory committee includes Messrs Robertson, Babcock, Meyer, Jones and Richardson of Washington, three of these being from the Congres-

sional library, with Professor Shepherd of Columbia and Professor Wilgus of the University of South Carolina. The United States technical coöperating committee appointed by the Department of State includes Miss Gericke, librarian of the State department, Professor Priestley of the University of California, Professor Hackett of the University of Texas, Dr W. W. Bishop of the University of Michigan, Robertson and Richardson of Washington, D. C.

The Director-General and his advisory committee are preparing from the surveys handed in and the suggestions of the National Technical Coöperating committees an agenda for the meeting intended, as far as possible, to deal with concrete projects, which may be followed up and produce actual bibliographical results contributing to that bibliography which was intended by the Havana conference, at least to its Latin-American aspects, this being what seems to have been especially needed and intended.

The Technical Coöperating committee of the United States has found it practicable to contribute to the concrete preparatory work a rather large body of titles on Latin-America by calling the matter to the attention of the Library of Congress and securing immediate attention of the Union Catalog staff in securing location titles in this field first. While the Library of Congress will necessarily act strictly within its trust limits, it can by emphasis on this field first, automatically gather a considerable body of material for future use of the bibliographers. This already amounts to perhaps 100,000 titles.

No date or place for the conference has yet been set, but active preparations for the conference are much farther advanced than was expected at this time and the conference may be within the year.

ERNEST C. RICHARDSON

Library of Congress
Washington, D. C.

We cannot abandon our education at the schoolhouse door. We have to keep it up thru life.—*Calvin Coolidge.*

A. L. A. Meetings in Chicago

The period of December 27-29 was taken up by meetings in Chicago of various A. L. A. groups who gave earnest attention to matters which seemed to them to warrant earnest consideration.

Council meetings

The first meeting of the Council held on Thursday afternoon, opened with a discussion as to whether library service to schools should be financed and administered by school authorities or by public library authorities.

The first presentation was by Carl Vitz, librarian, Public library, Toledo, Ohio. Mr Vitz, in opening the discussion, asked for an answer to the question, Why have an outside authority administer a problem that belongs entirely to the school? One of the advantages of school administration, he thought, was that school standards of equipment and emoluments are higher than library standards. Mr Vitz gave a history and resumé of the service that a library can be to a school, whoever administers it.

Jesse H. Newlon, director, Lincoln School, Teachers College, Columbia University, gave the story of school library service in general. Mr Newlon made some of the librarians smile when he recalled "the early days," which he placed at ten years ago. Many members of the Council remembered their own efforts to interest the school superintendents' section and the membership of the N. E. A. in general, more than 25 years ago in organized library service for schools, and which resulted in the formation of a library section in the N. E. A. that did valuable work for many years, tho it is no longer in existence.

Mr Newlon, in speaking of the changes that have occurred in the teaching process, pointed out the necessity of library service; change in the teaching attitude has arrived at the point where the function of the school is that to be teaching the pupils and students to think, instead of loading them up with facts and statistics,

the object being to teach pupils not what to think but how to think. Mr Newlon held that the school library was an integral part of the school administration and should receive the same attention in use, equipment and support that the chemistry, physics or other branches of teaching receive.

Discussion of the question was offered by Miss Kelly of Pittsburgh, who enumerated the advantages that might come from the school administration of the library, the public library administration of it, and coöperative administration, showing that the vision and spirit with which this work was done really furnished the value of any or all of it.

Miss Marion Lovis, supervisor of school libraries, Board of Education, Detroit, Mich., in reciting her experiences both in the public library and the public school side of the question, also emphasized the same idea, pointing out however, that so far as the financial situation was concerned, the administration as an integral part of the school equipment was better, for the librarian enjoyed the advantages of better salaries, longer vacations and the appreciation of good work to a larger degree when the library was administered by the school rather than by the public library.

Miss Gratia A. Countryman, Public library, Minneapolis, was listed to speak on Coöperation between county public library and public schools, but felt such a keen interest in the topic under discussion that she made a contribution to that topic before beginning the one assigned to her. She believed strongly in coöperation but that that it would afford more economical administration to have the school library service cared for by the library, to be paid for by the school board, than to have separate organizations. Teachers should own their own personal professional library and were entitled to all the additional help they required from the public library on the same basis that any other taxpayer or group

of people were entitled to library service.

Every school, she thought, should have a reference library for use of the whole school in addition to the service furnished by the public library, but the main thing to be kept in mind was that the pupils of the school should be graduated into the public library. The uniformity in organization and method furnished by a good public library caring for the school library, would be an additional advantage when the pupils leave school to use the public library instead of the school library.

Returning to the topic assigned to her, Miss Countryman recited her own observations and experience as she visited various rural centers where the city library had furnished library service which was of such a satisfactory nature that there seemed no ground to argue the question that a county library could be best served by having a central library, preferably the organized city library already at work, to serve its interests.

Adam Strohm, chairman of the committee for advancement in library standards, reported to the Council that the Board of Education had revised its attitude toward the requirement set out by the board some time ago relating to the experience required for entrance into library schools of college standing. The requirement has been modified to state that "previous experience is desirable but not required for entrance."

Resolutions from the Catalog section and College and Reference section relating to the necessity of a definite method of arrangement of the publications of the League of Nations were prepared by Alice Charlton of the John Crerar library, Chicago. (See p. 58)

Miss Eastman introduced Mr Raymond T. Rich, general secretary, World Peace Foundation, offices in Boston, who called attention to the fact that it was already almost impossible and growing more so, to obtain full sets of the publications of the League of Nations that have been issued. He

urged that institutional libraries, at least, put these publications on their regular subscription lists because of their increasing value in the course of time and the impossibility of supplying early or missing parts.

The statement in regard to League of Nations publications which was acted upon by the A. L. A. catalog section, at West Baden was:

It is an indispensable convenience for the diplomatic official, or private investigator, who has occasion to make use of the larger libraries the world over, to find in each library a complete file of the publications of the League of Nations, and it adds vastly to this convenience if these complete files are placed on the shelves in an orderly arrangement, always the same in the different libraries, thus facilitating consultation and contributing to a uniform system of references by which specific documents may be indicated in footnotes, bibliographies, and indexes. Each piece can not be separately bound and composite volumes will be necessary.

It is, therefore, highly important that an official arrangement should at once be established by the League, covering every document which has been printed under its auspices up to the present time, and that sets of title-pages and contents-sheets be compiled and printed which will enable libraries and archives to collate their sets and bind them in volumes which accord with this standard and official arrangement. It is fully as important that, hereafter, promptly at the end of each year, title-pages and contents-sheets be issued, covering the year's product.

There is no question but this plan will facilitate and promote the use of the documents and save thousands of dollars to libraries taken collectively.

In view of the above considerations, it was moved and carried that the Catalog section request the Council of the American Library Association to make urgent representations to the proper authorities of the League of Nations to establish an official and permanent order of arrangement of the documents already issued, to print title-pages and contents-sheets to facilitate binding them in composite volumes according to this official arrangement, and in the future at the end of each year to issue title-pages and contents-sheets for the year's product.

Miss Charlton called attention to the following resolution passed by the college and reference section:

Voted. That the College and Reference section request the Council of the American Library Association to make urgent representations to the proper authorities of the League of Nations to establish an official and permanent order of arrangement of the documents

already issued, to print title-pages and contents-sheets to facilitate binding them in composite volumes according to this official arrangement, and in the future at the end of each year to issue title-pages and contents-sheets for the year's product.

An interesting explanation of the work of abstracting and annotating articles in 1700 publications for the *Engineering Index* service was made by Waldo D. Downs of the American Society of Technical Engineers. He called attention to the fact that the printed cards in this service were available in two weeks after publication.

Miss Eastman announced that the A. L. A. Council had asked the International library and bibliographical congress to hold its meetings in 1933 in Chicago.

A telegram of greetings and best wishes from the Council and other friends was sent to Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, who was reported ill in New York.

The second session of the A. L. A. Council was held on Saturday morning. A petition for a periodical section and a section on work with the foreign-born was introduced by Carl Vitz. After a little discussion the petition was referred to the Committee on committees.

George B. Utley offered a reconsideration of the petition for the formation of a business library section. He presented the arguments in favor of the petition and traced the history of the proceedings looking to such action by the Council during the past three years, and moved that the petition be taken from the table and presented to the Council for action. This was done.

William F. Cady of the Special Libraries association offered a remonstrance signed by more than 100 members of the A. L. A. who were also members of the S. L. A., against the proposed section. Mr Cady claimed that it would be an unfriendly act to adopt the resolution since it was infringing on the province of an affiliated body, that it would act inimically against the best interests of the S. L. A. and that the S. L. A. stood ready

to afford a business round-table opportunity at an A. L. A. meeting at any time a request for it was presented to the S. L. A.

Mr Utley called attention to the fact that those members of the A. L. A. asking for the section could not afford to attend two national meetings, that the S. L. A. met infrequently at the same time and place as the A. L. A., that those asking for the section felt that the professional standards of the A. L. A. were more to their liking than the administration of the S. L. A., that they had a definite contribution to make in several ways to the A. L. A., which they considered the parent association of all library bodies, and that their preference was to make their contribution thru the A. L. A. rather than thru another body.

After discussion by Mr Meyer and Dr Williamson, Mr Utley's motion that the Council sanction the organization of a business library section was carried by a large majority.

A presentation was made by E. Kathleen Jones, Massachusetts, a plea for help by the A. L. A. in financing a prison library research program in Massachusetts to the sum of \$2500—\$1800 for salary and \$700 for incidentals. The main point of Miss Jones' plea was that institution libraries trying to do anything in prisons are hampered by lack of knowledge of a) books to be recommended and those to be excluded, b) the best methods of administration, c) how to make connection between books and prisoners.

Women's prisons are not so difficult to serve as are the men's. The committee stated that in the men's prisons, it was necessary that a man librarian practically live among the prisoners and officials long enough to work out the difficulties.

Massachusetts is the best state in which to work out the problem because of the organization of the prisons and reformatories in that state. The wardens of several county jails are much interested. The State Commissioner of Corrections is keenly alive to the possi-

bilities of the movement and heartily endorses the petition. A young man already equipped is willing to undertake the work.

The Department of Corrections is willing to provide maintenance for a time in most of the institutions for a limited period and the Massachusetts division of public libraries can and will supervise the work.

Miss Jones referred to the progress that had been made in some of the states, but without a definite demonstration the committee is not able to produce evidence for its necessity. The committee is at work on a list of prison libraries and a list of proved books. Miss Jones was strongly of the opinion that until the man equipped as aforesaid is allowed to work, there is little prospect of progress.

Dr C. A. Williamson, chairman of the committee to prepare detailed plans for the publication of a professional journal, made a report supplementary to the one printed in June. A communication with a subscription form had been mailed to the entire membership. The responses were 174 personal pledges received and 244 on behalf of institutions. Comparatively few of these pledges will hold if the price should be \$10 instead of the proposed \$5. The committee felt justified in assuming that 500 subscriptions must be on hand before the first number can be issued. This was the amount set in the report of the editorial committee in 1927. The committee is of the opinion that if and when 500 subscriptions are assured, additional subscribers will be forthcoming after the journal appears.

The committee recommended that an editor be selected and publication begun as soon as possible. The opinion of the committee is that unpaid editorial service should not be attempted and that the editor should receive adequate compensation. This should be brought about by supplementing from sources other than subscriptions. It was suggested that the dues of institutional members should be increased

from \$5 to \$25 and that the additional income be applied to the financing of the journal. The increased subscription would give the institutional member the privilege of a free copy.

The committee has proceeded upon the assumption that its duty has been to prepare plans for publishing such a journal and not to discuss the need for it or the desirability of having it published by the American Library Association; but certain members of the committee, namely, Misses Boyd, Coulter, Mann, and Messrs Williamson, Work, Wheeler, Van Hoesen and Utley, have expressed the opinion that it would be better to have the journal issued under the auspices of one or more universities interested in the field of library science.

The council approved the trust fund statement submitted by the trustees section of the A. L. A. and the committee on library revenues.

The president, Miss Eastman, made an appeal for librarians to help in raising the A. L. A. endowment fund to the extent that will meet the agreement with the Carnegie Corporation that it would give another million to the A. L. A. when the latter had raised a million. She called attention to the fact that \$100 a year paid by a sustaining member counts as \$2000 towards the endowment fund. A sustaining sum is counted as the result of five per cent interest on a contribution to the endowment fund. About one-fourth of the amount needed has been raised. Miss Eastman urged that sustaining members from local cities be secured by the librarians.

Mr Severance offered a report from the Committee of Five with regard to the officers and their terms of office. Section I of the report, providing that the chairman of the Council should be another person than the president of the association, was put to a vote and lost. Section II, calling for the election of the president for two years, was also voted down. Section III, to continue holding annual meetings, was carried.

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The committee made a report on their decision with regard to a journal of dis-

cussion and recommended that an editorial board which will select an editor and begin publication as soon as practical, be appointed. The Council adopted the recommendation. The committee asked to be dismissed.

Dr Bostwick presented a revision of the Telford report relating to classification and compensation plans for university and college library positions, based on the report by a sub-committee consisting of Charles H. Brown, George A. Works and Harold L. Leupp. The sub-committee's plan of classification was as follows:

1. A library expenditure of \$25 per student, exclusive of building maintenance and new construction, as a minimum sum for library support in institutions having less than 8000 students and \$20 per student in universities having over 8000 students.

2. The expenditure for building maintenance and new construction should not be less than four per cent of the total maintenance expenditures of the college or university.

3. Greater emphasis should be placed on general and professional education in the equipment of the librarian and the professional staff.

4. Give the professional library staff faculty rank corresponding with similar educational and professional equipment on the part of the teaching staff, with the same salaries for the same rank, the librarian to have the status of professor or dean in every case.

The report of the sub-committee was adopted.

The committee recommended the adoption of the Telford report as a whole as thus amended and that a small committee be appointed to extend the work as recommended by Mr Telford. The resolution was adopted. The report, of about 70 pages, has been accepted by the editorial committee for publication.

A communication from Mr J. C. Dana was read by the secretary. The communication was referred to the special committee on A. L. A. activities.

Carl B. Roden, chairman of the Nominating committee, announced that the committee's ballot for A. L. A. election for 1928-29 would carry only one name for each office to be filled.

Report of Executive Board Proceedings

Official A. L. A. delegates to the International library and bibliographical congress in Rome were appointed as follows: President of the A. L. A., as of June, 1929, the immediate past president, the librarian of Congress, secretary of the A. L. A., chairman of the committee on International relations, chairman of the committee on bibliography; chairman of the committee on library coöperation with the Hispanic peoples and the European representative of the A. L. A.; also all ex-presidents of the A. L. A.; members of the Executive Board; members of the committee on International relations, and presidents of the affiliated national library organizations who attend the conference.

Matters of general interest voted by the Executive Board are as follows: Appointment of A. L. A. delegates to the Third Biennial conference of the World Federation of Education associations be left to the president and secretary; President Eastman was appointed official delegate of the A. L. A. to the conference of the World Association for Adult Education meeting in Cambridge, England, August 22-29; proposal by George W. Lee that a joint meeting of representatives of the Special Libraries association and of the A. L. A. be held with the idea of talking over plans of coöperation, be left to the program committee; that solicitation of *Booklist* advertising be continued during 1929; that a special committee be appointed to consider the library in relation to the city manager form of government; that an A. L. A. committee on fire insurance be appointed and authorized to obtain the advice of the National Underwriters Association in working out a model policy for libraries; that a letter of appreciation be sent to Dr C. W. Andrews and to an anonymous donor for proposed bequests to A. L. A. endowment fund; that the Drama League of America be authorized to use the name of the A. L. A. as sponsoring Drama week. A lease for space on the ninth floor of the new building at 510 N. Michigan for the headquarters offices of the organization

was authorized as the headquarters offices will be moved about May 1. A plan of bequests by life insurance to promote the endowment of libraries and of the Association was approved.

The Board approved the budget and plan for a preliminary investigation of an extension of cataloging service to American libraries proposed by the Catalog section, and the proposed research program in prison library work. The officers were instructed to make every effort to secure funds for these two purposes.

It was reported that the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace had made a grant of \$5000 to the A. L. A., \$2000 for exhibits and exhibit material, and \$3000 for travel expenses of two official delegates to the International Library Congress in Rome, June 15-30.

In a letter to the A. L. A., the Board expressed a desire to cooperate with Roland Marcel of the Bibliothèque Nationale in the proposed exhibit of American libraries, history and thot.

College and reference libraries

The college and reference librarians, under the chairmanship of Harold L. Leupp, were much interested in a discussion by Dean Works of Chicago, who presented the plans of the proposed work of the committee of the North Central association of colleges, on library standards for college and university libraries. (See page 84)

Charles B. Shaw gave a detailed report of the progress of the College and reference library *Yearbook* to be issued shortly.

F. K. W. Drury gave the results of an investigation of the study of library tools as a required course in the curriculum. Because of the various standards of instruction, Mr Drury recommended that the college and reference section appoint a committee to work with a similar committee from the School Library section and with the Education committee of the A. L. A. in order to coordinate the instruction in secondary schools as well as in colleges, and to bring about minimum requirements in library knowledge for college entrance.

Mr Drury argued that all high school graduates should know how to use four library tools: dictionaries, encyclopedias, *Readers' Guide*, and the catalog. If freshmen do not know how to use these tools upon entering college, they should be given instruction during the fall quarter. (There was not time to make public a whispered remark that freshmen should also know the alphabet and how to spell.)

Professor Edward F. Rothschild of the University of Chicago spoke of the Art reference collection which was a gift of the Carnegie Corporation to certain selected colleges and universities. He explained at length the arrangement and the use made of the collection. He did not explain the basis of the selection of colleges to receive this gift nor how institutions, not recipients of this gift, could give the same service to their students. There was not time for any discussion to bring out certain disputed points in the handling of art collections.

The paper by Mary Rudd Cochran, University of Cincinnati library, discussing the Acquisition and care of special collections, dealt with collections of rare books or books on unusual and limited subjects. Collectors of such books are not as likely to give them to school libraries as to college, university, public or reference libraries. Under "Care," she took up such topics as the advisability of special rooms for special collections, vaults for rare books in buildings not fire-proof and burglar-proof, and similar questions.

The cost of lending books by inter-library loans has become an expensive matter. C. H. Brown of Iowa suggested that a charge per volume be made to cover wear as well as cost of packing by the lender.

The college librarians of the Middle West elected the following officers: President, C. P. Baber, librarian, Kansas State Teachers College, Emporia; secretary-treasurer, Mary C. Venn, reference librarian, Oberlin College, Ohio.

On Friday afternoon, the university and reference librarians met with H. L. Leupp, University of California, presid-

ing. T. W. Koch of Northwestern University, showed by lantern slides, plans and views of a number of libraries—University of Washington, Dartmouth College and the new building at Yale. He was followed by Mr Gilchrist of Rochester, Mr Henry of the University of Cincinnati and Mr Windsor of the University of Illinois, who explained slides showing new libraries at those institutions.

Mr Gerould described the proposed *Union List* of foreign government publications. The first section of this, devoted to Latin American countries, has been sent to 200 of the larger libraries. Mr Gerould urged a careful checking and invited any library which had not received a copy and desired to list its holdings to send to him for a list. The success of the *Union List* of periodicals brought out the possibility of using the surplus of several thousand dollars as a nucleus for financing the publication of a supplement. Mr Lydenberg stated that the committee was willing to undertake this if the need was apparent.

In a discussion of the British Museum *Monthly List* of accessions, it was the opinion of many that the use made of the list was hardly commensurate with the work and cost involved in putting it in shape to use. A report came from the Bibliographical Society of America that there is a possibility that a new catalog of the British Museum will be issued within a few years.

The committee to have charge of the 1929 midwinter meeting is: Julian S. Fowler, Oberlin College, chairman; George B. Utley, Newberry Library, and Harold L. Leupp, University of California.

The fourth edition of the *Directory of Special Libraries* in Boston and vicinity has been issued by the Special Libraries association of Boston. There are 133 individual collections noted, ranging in subject matter from botany thru street railways. The collections noted in the directory have been built up by firms and individuals and include much that is impossible to duplicate. All these, in most cases, are open for consultation.

League of Library Commissions Meeting

The meeting of the League of library commissions, with C. B. Lester presiding, with a registration of 20, held a conference attended by 40. The topic for the morning being adult education from the viewpoint of the duties and responsibilities of state library commissions, Dr John D. Willard, of the American Association for adult education, was asked to present the problem as related to the rural population.

Education in rural districts

In his talk, Dr Willard brought out the difference between the "purposeful and systematic effort by the student for the increase of knowledge, skill or appreciation" (his definition of adult education) and the old conception of study necessarily under the guidance of instructors. This desire for self-education may be, he stated, an effort to increase the student's earning power, or for cultural purposes, or merely for the sheer pleasure of knowing. He may be interested in increased mechanical skill which may carry with it a growth of power of mentality, or he may be reaching out for an understanding of the purpose of life.

In the rural districts, the opportunities for cultural development are few compared to those offered for the solution of technical problems. Cultural development is limited to the populated areas. Much is being done by the agricultural extension and university extension agencies, but even this is limited to the more thickly populated areas. The opportunities within the reach of most are correspondence courses—a costly means—the radio, and an occasional lecture or entertainment.

The conservatism of the rural districts caused by isolation is a real obstruction to adult education. In certain sections, isolation is accompanied by poverty and tho it may lead to self reliance, it also results in little support for measures of education, for libraries, and for the development of highways. Urban areas must be called upon to equalize these rural deficiencies.

Altho the agricultural extension workers—5400 trained for adult education—have of necessity stressed the technical problems, their work has in many cases also become cultural. Technical study may result in a quickened intellect—if so, there will be cultural results. The work of extension agents in Iowa has resulted in an increase of home leisure for cultural advancement. It is easy to go from the technical to the cultural if the agent or teacher knows how to develop and the student to receive.

If the urge is there, it will find expression. The rural population must make the best of what is at hand. The plays, clubs and entertainments are indigenous products of their life and represent real thot and effort. They need most, some means of improvement within attainable standards. They need material to support them in their procedure and some guidance and teaching. The library, therefore, is needed first of all. There is a great need for rural dramas, books for the study of economics, literature and agriculture. The library will earn its way when given a chance. Where people are exposed to books and books to people, the library takes, and yet, 82 per cent of the rural population is still without library service except such as can be given by library commissions. Tho the cultural development of rural sections must be by the effort of the people, rather than thru something external, there must perhaps, be implanted first the idea of the need for that development.

Dr Willard suggested as a plan of operation—

1 A conference in each state of all statewide agencies and collegiate institutions on the subject of adult education, in order to learn

a) What various agencies and institutions are now doing in adult education.

b) The consensus of opinion as to the greatest immediate need and opportunity in adult education.

c) What each agency is willing and able to sponsor in the way of experiment and demonstration, with specific allocation of such expenditures.

2 Experiment in selected counties and communities to discover how much of an adult education program the local leadership and initiative will develop with a minimum of help from the institution.

3 A clearing house in each state thru which the institution will be currently informed on all programs in adult education experiments.

4 A report and discussion on adult education at an annual conference. . . in which experiences will be compared.

In talking of the responsibility of library workers in adult education, Miss Cook of North Dakota, gave helpful suggestions. First of all, she would eliminate all courses for credit. For the librarians of small towns, commissions should provide reading lists. Help in program making must be given clubs and a good sized collection of books made available for them. Attendance at district club meetings will give an opportunity for informal program discussion. A union catalog at the Commission offices of books in foreign languages in the state would be a great help in work with foreigners. The "family package" for the remote rural localities gives some continuity of reading even tho not a real reading course. A special worker is needed for institutional help to choose books suited to special classes. Coöperation of commissions with other agencies was especially urged, to prevent overlapping of effort by state departments.

The afternoon session was devoted to informal discussion of commission problems and committee reports.

Miss Long of Wisconsin in the absence of Mr Tolman, spoke on the necessity of securing adequate support for library enterprises and deplored the tendency of communities to give any kind of library service rather than none, recommending the postponement of book service until a right beginning could be made. Other state representatives questioned the right to withhold help when a small beginning is to be made. Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky report minimum tax rates as the solution.

Mr Lester stated the need of a state equalization of library as well as school facilities as is done in New York and New Jersey where state aid is accompanied by state control. It was reported that Wisconsin and Michigan lend large collections of books (1000 in Michigan) to counties when organizing libraries.

The Committee on publication was authorized to proceed with the plans for

the county library posters and was allowed not to exceed \$200.

Miss Cook reported for the Committee on coöperation with suggestions for the use of the *Reading-with-a-purpose* courses. She reported that the most of the commissions purchase all of the books on the lists; that the majority did not prefer a shorter list of courses; that the booklets serve other needs; that they are the best publication of the A. L. A.

The A. L. A. stated that no titles of books included in the courses without the publisher's assurance that those titles were not out of print and would not likely be so for several years.

Copies of Miss Price's report for the Committee on library equipment were distributed.

Miss Merrill discussed the A. L. A. Extension committee publications and urged a course on county libraries in the curriculum of some library school and of a summer course in rural sociology for county library workers, in connection with some agricultural college. The latter suggestion met with great enthusiasm.

In the volume, *An Outline of careers for women*, (Doubleday) there is a chapter on librarianship as a career for women. The article was prepared by Mary E. Downey, librarian, Denison University, Granville, Ohio.

Miss Downey truly says:

The importance of developing and extending the reading habit among children and adults, the importance of the library as a supplement to the school of every kind; as well as the importance of bibliographical research to the highest success of practically every known business, or profession, has so broadened the field of library service, that today, librarianship offers varied opportunity to the woman whose inclination leads toward it.

The technique for library work has gradually so developed that even the uninitiated quickly recognize a well organized library. The service to varied users has become so highly organized as to require special natural qualities as well as special preparation to do the work successfully. Constantly widening recognition of the advantages of specialized libraries in the specialized work of the world, with the specialized knowledge of the person who brings the right book to the right person at the right time, is continually enlarging the field of library service to women.

Library Meetings

California—A dinner and evening session of the California School Library association was held December 20, in Los Angeles, during the convention of the California teachers' association, and was attended by 200 persons interested in school libraries. Mrs W. J. Cooper, State superintendent of public instruction, Mrs Susan M. Dorsey, superintendent of city schools, Arthur Gould and R. H. Lane, assistant superintendents, and several members of the City board of education, were among the guests present.

Dr J. Duncan Spaeth of Princeton University and William J. Locke, English author, were dinner guests and principal speakers of the evening.

Dr Spaeth chose the subject of Books and people. He defined true illiteracy as the lack of acquaintance with the best people, the best people very often being met in books. He voiced a particularly timely warning when he bade librarians beware the crowding of their shelves with "books made out of other books, instead of books out of which other books are made."

Mr Locke spoke charmingly of his brief experience as a self-appointed librarian, early in his career when he was master in an English public school, and continued by enumerating various ways in which books may be mutilated and abstracted from libraries.

Mr Cooper spoke of plans for enlarging library fields of work. Mrs Dorsey said farewell to the school librarians and their problems.

Miss Estill, president of the association, found several occasions for appropriate mention of the *List of Books for High School Libraries* just off the press, which offers substantial evidence of the high professional achievements of the contributing members.

Kansas—The twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Kansas library association was held at Hays, October 17-19. The legislative committee reported that the maximum levy had been raised from one-fourth mill to one mill for cities of the first class. Coöperation of the

Kansas library association was asked by the State library in obtaining an appropriation from the Legislature of a fund to cover the expenses of extension trips made by the State librarian. A resolution was adopted pledging the association to further any efforts to secure legislation favorable to library extension work.

Carl H. Milam, secretary of the A. L. A., was the principal speaker at the convention. His topic was Present tendencies in library service.

He contrasted the programs of library conferences and conventions of today with those of a few years ago. Programs in library conferences used to be filled up with little technical details, but now they are stressing a broad educational service by cooperating with other educational institutions. The program now stresses adult education and school library service. Library work now is laying more emphasis on the service end rather than on the acquisition end. There is closer cooperation with other educational agencies. As an example of this, he pointed out that the A. L. A. now has a committee cooperating with the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, and with the American university association.

Commercial concerns are now depending on library associations as never before. The American Telephone Company is buying many copies of *Reading With a Purpose series*, and distributing them among their employees to encourage them to educate themselves.

The tendency in educational work today indicates the decreasing importance of textbooks in the educational process, and the increasing importance of library materials.

The A. L. A. has come to recognize that mere knowledge is not nearly so important as the ability to find facts. This is being tried out in a unique and interesting way in Swarthmore College, according to Mr. Milam. It is conducting an honor course, open to certain students of junior and senior standing in which class attendance is not required. The material is looked up and the course is worked out without the formality and convention of the classroom. This is

leading to self-education. Max Mason of the Rockefeller foundation was quoted by Mr. Milam as saying, "No university can educate a man. What it can do for him consists of three things: first, it can stimulate curiosity; second, it can teach him to find answers to questions in books and laboratories; and third, it can teach him to keep his curiosity alive."

After observing library work all over the country, Mr. Milam reached the conclusion, "All education is self education, and reading is the chief medium thru which education comes," and made this prediction: "Real soon there will be as many school libraries in this country as there are public libraries. The library will become the real heart of the teaching institution and of the teaching process."

Officers elected for the coming year are: President, Mrs. Elsie H. Pine, Emporia; vice-president, C. P. Baber, Emporia; secretary, Elizabeth Davis, Wichita; treasurer, Louise McNeal, Topeka.

Philadelphia—On January 4, members of the Special Libraries council of Philadelphia and vicinity were given opportunity to hear about the Broad Street subway from an official of the department of city transit. As guests of Miss Mary Rogers, librarian of the department, the visit to the new City Hall Annex where the transit department is housed was enjoyable.

Norman M. Rolston, official photographer of the department, gave some very interesting information in connection with the subway. He paid high tribute to the engineers connected with the project, whose work must go on regardless of a change in administration. He corrected the popular misconception about the cost of the subway which figure is frequently alluded to as \$100,000,000, the actual cost being \$89,000,000.

On November 2, the Council heard, also, Howard Strong of the Regional Planning Federation tell about the problems of and plans for the Philadelphia region. The Federation is attempting to stem the further "just growing up" of the city.

Various maps and slides were shown indicating the trends of population, suburban growth, industrial growth; the need for development of circumferential or by-pass highways, and the possibilities of park development in the Philadelphia region. "There are 357 independent administrative units outside of our city whose political borders must be forgotten when we consider such problems as sewage disposal, water supply, and transportation, all of which affect the large center of population as well as the outlying community." At the present time the Federation is cooperating with the U. S. Geodetic Survey in revising the map of the Philadelphia region. This work is being checked by means of sectional aeroplane maps.

Coming Meetings

The A. L. A. will hold its annual meeting for 1929 in Washington City, May 13.

The Atlantic City meeting for 1929 will be held at the Hotel Chelsea, on March 8-9.

The Massachusetts library club will hold a joint meeting with the Special Libraries association of Boston, at the Hotel Statler, Boston, February 8.

Invitations to entertain the annual meeting of Illinois library association have been given by a number of cities, among them Springfield, Urbana and Mattoon.

The annual meeting of the Ontario library association will be held on Easter Monday and Tuesday. Miss Lillian Smith, head of the Boys and Girls house of the Toronto public library, is president. It is expected that the program will be highly flavored by "boys and girls works."

The fourth annual conference of the American association for adult education will be held at the University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill, May 20-22. Morse E. Cartwright, director, invites those members of the A. L. A. who are interested in the adult education work, to attend the meeting. It follows the A. L. A. meeting in Washington.

Interesting Things in Print

A Selected list of books for parents and teachers, just issued by the Child Study Association of America, is a revision and an extension of the former lists. The annotations are especially good.

A selected list of books on American journalism, covering every phase of journalism, has been compiled by Helen Oldeg of the staff of the Public library, St Louis. The entries are classified by subject.

The *Proceedings* of the National Extension Association meeting for 1928 are now in print and available at \$1 a volume from the secretary of the association, W. S. Bittner, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana.

A list of books on China, Japan, the Philippines, their social, economic and political situation, contains suggestions by the Public library, Cleveland, Ohio, as preliminary reading for the Institute on Foreign Affairs.

The second edition of the Home Study Blue Book compiled by J. S. Noffsinger, director of the National Home Study Council, has been issued. This is a directory of approved correspondence courses with information and suggestions with regard to the work.

A pamphlet that accords with its suggestive title and contents, His Majesty's golden book, a fiftieth anniversary brochure relating to The Veiled Prophet, has been issued from St Louis. Grateful acknowledgement for a copy sent to LIBRARIES is due the St Louis public library.

The proceedings of the meeting of the Southeastern library association, held at Biloxi, Miss., November 7-10, are to be printed and in accordance with a resolution passed at that meeting, will be distributed by the secretary, Ella May Thornton, State library, Atlanta, Georgia.

A leaflet issued in December, 1928, by Mrs Laura Steffens Suggett of California, under the title, If not, why not, carries very pertinent suggestions as to

the value of a county library particularly, and also of the school libraries, public library service and library service for the endowment of the library.

The proceedings of the National university extension association 1915-1927, 10 volumes, are obtainable at \$1 a volume. The 1928 proceedings, volume 11, is just off the press. Two copies will be mailed without charge to the directors of extension divisions of institutions which are members of the N. U. E. A.

The Public library of Rochester, N. Y., has joined the long and growing procession of those issuing bulletins as sources of library information. A bulletin is to be issued monthly by the Rochester public library under the title of the *Library Mercury*. The first sentence and the last tell the story: first, "Library service is our aim"; last, "Reference questions gladly answered by telephone."

The Story of the chain store by W. D. Darby has been issued by The Textile Publishing Co. It is an unusual volume, the last subject on which one would expect a full treatise. It is of interest, however, to follow the history and philosophy of the new method of merchandising based on the declared purpose of improving methods long employed. The customer is looking for merchandise value and service instead of merely for low prices.

A directory of libraries in Boston and vicinity which have special collections of a character not usually found in public and school libraries, has been compiled by the Boston chapter of the Special Libraries association. The aim is to list resources available for consultation by other librarians and in many cases by the general public, such as the wide resources of the Boston public library, the State library and the large college libraries, which offer their facilities to all inquirers. The Directory has two indexes, a subject index and a personnel index.

A most fascinating bit of printing is the small booklet issued by Mr J. Chris-

tian Bay, librarian of the John Crerar library, Chicago, just received. The subject matter is "The sciences in the training of the librarian," which was presented by Mr Bay at the professional training section of the A. L. A. at its conference in June, 1928. (See A. L. A. *Proceedings*, page 448). The address is printed on handmade paper by Niels P. Thomsen, Holstebro, Denmark, in a brochure that is a beautiful carriage for the friendly message sent out with it for the holiday season by Mr Bay.

An *Anniversary list*, 1898-1928, has been compiled by the Book evaluation committee, Children's librarians section of the A. L. A. It is a selection of important children's books published in America during the last 30 years which can be purchased for \$100. The list was prepared and issued in celebration of the anniversary of the beginning of special library service for children in the large cities of the country. Copies are being mailed free to all members of the section. Others may buy them at the rate of 10c for single copies with reduced rates for bulk. Write to Helen Martin, chairman, School of Library Science, Cleveland, Ohio.

There was issued in *Technical Bulletin Number 1*, November, 1928, Bureau of Public Personnel Administration, Washington, D. C., Classification and compensation plans, their development, adoption, and administration. This is a report prepared by a section of the Civil Service Assembly of the United States and Canada and adopted by that body at its annual meeting held in Denver in September, 1928.

The contents of the *Bulletin* are recommendations adopted by the Assembly as to the distinguishing characteristics of the positions that make up the service which should be ascertained and recorded. The classification plan and its development, the compensation plan and its development, the adoption and administration of the compensation plans with much material relative thereto, are included.

In the report of the Women's Bureau (U. S. depart. of labor) for the fiscal year ended June 30, by the director, Mary Anderson, it is stated that in addition to preserving the printed material which was issued by the Women's Bureau, attention has been paid to material that has been published elsewhere.

A large amount of research work consists in answering special inquiries that come to the bureau and this year a considerable amount has been concerned with foreign labor laws and women in industry. This is due to the fact that practically every European country forbids night work by women while most of the states in the United States permit it. The regular eight-hour day is far more prevalent in Europe than in the United States. Much help in collecting and analyzing labor laws is received from the International Labor Office.

The *News Letter* issued at intervals by the bureau gives current information relating to working women.

The *Weekly List* of selected Government publications for December 19 gives a list of nearly 40 annual reports of Government departments and bureaus. Any library not having these can hardly afford, for the small sum that is asked for them, to miss this valuable, authentic information for its reference department. A new Congressional directory is also listed. Standard subjects discussed are cotton, cylinder pressures, feedstuffs, foreign credit, forest fires, lilies, schools, utility corporations and many others.

The *Weekly List* will be sent free upon request made to the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., to any library desiring it. The publications entered in the *Weekly List* are in paper covers unless otherwise designated.

A tool that can be recommended without reservation is the series of Program outlines on books and authors, prepared by John V. Sloan of Chicago. It contains suggestions for 29 programs on leading writers of the day and their new books. The purpose of the pamphlet is

to provide literary sections of women's clubs and similar organizations interested in the study of modern authors and their work, with comprehensive outlines on which programs devoted to these authors may be based. Mr Sloan has had extensive experience in this sort of thing. His method is to provide not only the basic material for papers to be prepared by members, but leading questions for general discussion. (Appleton)

Some of the authors included are: Edith Wharton, Joseph C. Lincoln, André Maurois, George Gibbs, J. Wm. Hudson, Brand Whitlock, Stephen Crane, Stendahl, George Moore, Edgar Lee Masters, Barrett H. Clark, Angelo Patri. A bibliography at the close includes material on the authors treated.

A second edition, revised and enlarged, of "A Dickens dictionary" has been prepared by Alex. J. Phillip, Gravesend, England. The work has been divided into two parts. The first includes the dictionary with prefaces and explanations, the second, the originals and prototypes of the characters included, giving notes that locate the character.

A strong interest in the Dictionary lies in the matter of originals. A wide difference of opinion exists among Dickens' admirers as to whether the characters in the different works are original or whether they were photographic as to certain persons whom Dickens had met in his varied career.

Part 2 of the Dictionary has been compiled afresh by Lieutenant-Colonel W. L. Gadd who alone is responsible for the opinions expressed in certain identifications. The dictionary of originals enlarged from four pages to 50 must prove of exceeding interest to those who are devotees of the Dickens investigation.

Is This an Interesting Item? It Is

I enjoy the contents just as much as ever and welcome each new number with joy. We all owe you a vote of thanks for the work you are doing for us.—
Esther Nelson, librarian, University of Utah, Salt Lake City.

Books

This is the day of discussion of books in sets, subscription books and works of ready reference handled outside the regular book shop. It is noticeable that in library associations, in various kinds of library meetings and in the new *Book Bulletin* of the Northwest Pacific library association, librarians generally are questioning the value of books brought to them rather than those which they go out to seek.

The plan of *The New human interest library* is a very material extension of an earlier publication by the same publishers. The work is intended primarily for young people, particularly those in school, and intends to give both pleasure and profit in its use. There are six volumes, each with a definite character, carrying material that is complete for the purpose of giving information to young people.

The first volume, *The Child and his world*, is an excellent source book for material that concerns the growing child. It is replete with elementary projects, practical and fascinating; with methods and devices for use from the pre-school to high school, done by competent specialists in each case. Boys' and girls' clubs are interestingly treated, with plans, programs and achievement stories of the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Camp Fire Girls and the 4-H Farm Clubs.

The second volume, *Stories of science*, tells the story of earth and sky—the basis of geography—and runs thru in an attractive way, plant and animal life, the races, physiology and hygiene and ends with leading inventions and some of the great marvels of modern engineering.

The third volume, *Great industries*, presents the industries of America, the making of paper, glass, textiles, the basic industry of agriculture, mining in many of its aspects, and concludes with typical smaller industries, including the manufacture of ink, matches and soap.

The fourth volume, *Our country in romance*, brings out in attractive manner the dramatic episodes and periods connected with the settlement, development and rise to power of United States.

A strong feature in this volume is the story of the government, local, state and national.

The fifth volume, *Around the world*, gives the history and geography of the nations of the world, with description of places. The treatment is by countries and deals with what is seen in a journey thru the lands visited.

The last volume, *Leaders of all times*, is worth while not only for the treatment of persons included, but it throws illuminating light on the pioneers of literature, art, music, science and polar exploration.

Each volume is finished with a bibliography prepared by competent librarians. More than a thousand excellent titles are included.

The make-up of the books in paper, print and illustrations is exceedingly good. Each volume carries its own index, and the last volume contains a complete index, listing everything in the series. For what it claims to be, a supplementary reference work, the series is to be commended. Also, the job has been well done both from the editorial and material sides. The subject matter of these volumes is, of course, not new. Many books treat of it; but it is all prepared in a new way and with a new atmosphere of interest that cannot fail to add much to both knowledge and imagination.

National defense, by Julia E. Johnsen, is the last volume in the *Wilson Handbook* series. It is compiled from entirely new sources, mostly post war material and largely from material published since the Washington Conference. The arguments on both sides are presented, covering the army and the navy and every phase of interest connected with them in the matter of preparation, help, science, etc. Briefs and bibliography on both sides are included. The national defense being a timely subject, debating societies in and out of school, clubs, etc., will greatly appreciate access to this volume.

The Fine Arts section of the *Standard Catalog* for public libraries has been issued.

Library Schools**Carnegie library, Atlanta**

The 1927-28 annual report of the Director of the Library school shows that of the 250 graduates, 160 are in library work, representing a wide range of library activities. While generally located in library work in the South, the graduates are also to be found in California, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, and Ohio.

The Southeastern meeting at Biloxi in November was attended by six faculty members.

In the past two months, the members of the class have been particularly fortunate in having outside lecturers who have brought to certain subjects of the curriculum, the results of personal study and experience in their fields. On November 10, John Adams Lowe gave an informal talk on the authors whom he has known personally, among them, Amy Lowell, Angela Morgan, Marguerite Wilkinson, Christopher Morley and others. This talk was followed later by an exhibit of the books autographed by these authors for Mr Lowe, who generously loaned them to the library school.

Another privilege was the lecture by Edward Alexander Parsons of New Orleans on the Confessions of a bibliophile. Mr Parsons is a collector of rare books, and has one of the finest collections of rare books in the South, including examples from the Aldus to the Ashendene presses.

On January 5, Mildred P. Harrington, in charge of school library work of the Parker school district, Greenville, South Carolina, talked to the students on A Live high-school library. Her talk was supplemented by an exhibit of scrap books of school library work.

Martha Anne Kendrick, '16, has accepted the position of librarian, Public library, High Point, North Carolina.

Alice James, '23, has accepted the position of assistant in the library of the State Normal School, Athens, Georgia.

Marianne Reed Martin, '23, is now children's librarian, Jones Memorial library, Lynchburg, Virginia.

Georgie Brock Baker, '26, in September accepted a position as an assistant in the cir-

culation department, Public library, Toledo, Ohio.

Della Frances Dryer, '26, resigned her position in the library of Birmingham, Alabama, in December, 1928, to accept that of senior reference assistant in the music department of the Detroit public library.

Married

Alice Macey, '21, to Frank Woodberry Applebee, June, 1928.

Eugenia Peed, '23, to John I. Erwin, November 14, 1928.

Amy Quillian, '25, to Raymond Blalock Nixon, December 24, 1928.

Helen Keyns Norris, '26, to John Conrad Flippin, December 23, 1928.

Jean Webb, '26, to John Gordon Christian, Jr., December 27, 1928.

Loulie Cason Forester, '28, to Sidney Lanier Burns, December 15, 1928.

WINIFRED LEMON DAVIS

Principal

Carnegie library, Pittsburgh

During January, Margaret Jackson, librarian of the Hoyt library, Kingston, Pa., supplemented the course in Administration of small libraries, with two unusually helpful lectures on Some administrative problems of the small library.

Appointments

Nancy Boyd, '26, head of the children's department, Public library, Birmingham, Alabama.

Gertrude Anne Schwenger, '23, assistant librarian, Public library, Scarsdale, New York. The appointment took effect February 1.

FRANCES H. KELLY

Principal

Drexel Institute

Students of the library school registered for the winter term on January 2. In addition to the routine work of the course, the students recently had the pleasure of hearing Dr Louis W. Flaccus, of the University of Pennsylvania, on The Right response to art, after the class had visited the Philadelphia museum of art.

An observation visit was made to the pedagogical library, where the students heard a lecture from Ada Liveright on the scope of the library and its collections. A visit was also made to the Kingessing branch of the Free library of Philadelphia, where Miss Terry, the librarian, addressed the class on the administration of a branch library. The

director of the library school was the guest of the State district meeting, at Bala-Cynwyd, and spoke on adult education.

The second semester of the special course in School Library work begins February 12. In addition to these lectures to high school librarians, Drexel is giving a course of 10 lectures to the 70 students of the Illman Training School for kindergarten and primary teachers on the use of the library. These lectures are conducted by Alice R. Brooks in the library school class rooms.

Announcement was made on Founder's Day, December 13, of an additional gift of \$250,000 from Cyrus H. K. Curtis, which brings his recent donations to Drexel to figures over a million dollars.

MRS ANNE W. HOWLAND

Director

University of Minnesota

There were 92 different students registered for the courses offered by the division of library instruction, University of Minnesota. These, with the exception of a few unclassified students, are registered as candidates for a degree in either the College of science, literature and arts or the College of education. Forty-five of the number are full-time students. The rest are taking courses that will enable them to acquire enough credits to meet the conditions of the Minnesota State department of education for teacher-librarians' certificates.

Iowa, Wisconsin, Montana, Minnesota, North Dakota, Oklahoma and Texas are represented among the students, 35 of whom are graduates of 14 different colleges or universities. A course in library administration and book selection for children and adolescents, will be given in the winter quarter by Miss Della McGregor, chief of the juvenile department, public library, St Paul.

F. K. WALTER

Director

St. Louis public library

The first two lectures of the New Year were given by Alice I. Hazeltine, Columbia University, New York City, formerly a member of the staff both in

the St. Louis library school and the St. Louis public library.

Jessie Gay Van Cleve, the A. L. A. specialist in children's literature, lectured before the school, January 9-10, on New books for children, Folk tales and Story telling.

Election of class officers resulted as follows: President, Mary Bell McConkey; vice-president, Helen Schaaf; secretary, Katharine Hyatt; treasurer, Virginia Hyatt.

Celeste Terry, '25 and '27, for three years assistant children's librarian at Cabanne branch, St. Louis, is now working in the Bookshop for Boys and Girls in Boston.

Dorothy Sommers, '27, is first-assistant in the Fine Arts department of the Boston public library.

Catherine M. Jones, '21, who organized the library at Fontbonne college, St. Louis, and who has been lecturing there since 1924, on library science, is now working for an A. M. degree at the St. Louis University.

HARRIET P. SAWYER

Principal

Simmons College

The summer session of six weeks, July 1-August 16, will offer the four courses, cataloging, reference and classification, and administration. High school graduation is a prerequisite for entrance into any summer course. Miss Donnelly and Miss Hyde will be the instructors.

The Corporation has granted permission to the library school to offer in the summer, units toward an associate B. S. degree. Beginning with the summer of 1929, graduates of academic colleges may obtain in one summer session, the work of one-half a regular term's work or one-sixth of the regular one-year course.

The Simmons "October letter" brought its usual loyal response from the Simmons women in the field, as 585 letters went out, and on January 12 returns were in from 93%. Those from Europe and Asia are still to arrive. It seems a pity to distill the interesting single reports into tables of statistics, but as LIBRARIES has published them for succeeding years, they may have a cumulative value for the field at large.

The analysis of 501 reports from those holding full time positions shows a salary

average of \$1926, with a median of \$1800; 40% receive salaries of from \$2000-4260, 6% get \$2500-4260, and about 4%, \$3000 or over; 20% receive \$1800; 40% less than \$1800. The increasing size of the graduating classes means that an increasingly large proportion of the group is represented here by an initial salary. The majority of those who have one or more years experience report increases ranging from \$25 to \$650 for the year.

The normal month vacation is reported by 55%, and 28.5 enjoy vacations ranging from five weeks to five months; 16.5% have less than four weeks.

Public libraries absorb 40%, colleges 25%, schools 17.5%. The distribution of the other 17.5% is wide and most interesting. There are some in business, banking, law, medical, biological, chemical, hospital, engineering, art, music, government and theological libraries. Several are in bookstores, and some do editorial work.

The increasing responsibility of the positions is noticeable. There are 40% librarians of separate libraries, or of branches or department libraries in colleges. A number are supervisors, and many are heads of special departments. Catalogers 25%. Children's work and references are next in popularity. The teaching of library science becomes more marked, from Alice Higgins of the New Jersey College for women Library school, and those on the staff of the Simmons College library school who make this a major occupation, to those who do it as a sideline. For instance, all the school librarians give instruction in the use of books and libraries to the students. An unusual development is the course given by Lucy Osborne, curator of the Chapin collection at Williams college, on the appreciation of the material in that collection, which a group of Williams students and faculty have elected.

Besides these 501, eight persons reported part-time positions, two are giving the full year to studying for advanced library degrees, three are traveling. Four were leaving the field to be

married, and seventeen are temporarily out because of their own health, or that of their families. A dozen are in other than library fields.

Our suggestion that children's books before 1850 and early magazines for children would be welcome gifts has brought us additions to build up that collection.

JUNE RICHARDSON DONNELLY
Director

University of Toronto

The Library school, Ontario College of Education, University of Toronto, opened its first year with a class of 35 students. The officers for the class are: President, Florence Smith, Hamilton; vice-president, Frances Shillington, Lethbridge, Alberta; secretary-treasurer, Dorothy Kerr, Toronto.

Elective courses in college and university libraries, printing, and boys and girls work have been held in the first semester. Other elective courses in special libraries, school libraries, and story-telling will be given in the second semester. The course in college and university libraries included practice work under W. S. Wallace in the University of Toronto library. Practice work for all students will begin in February in the public libraries of the city.

The special lecturers from the city libraries in the first semester were Dr George H. Locke, Modern fiction; W. O. Carson, Administration of libraries; W. S. Wallace, College and university libraries; Lillian H. Smith, Boys and girls work. The school has had informal visits from Adam Strohm of the Detroit public library, Katharine Etz, Metropolitan Life Insurance Co., New York, and the Contessa Maria Loschi of Rome, who was the guest of the University Women's club of Toronto in November. E. Cockburn Kyte, librarian, Queen's university, gave a series of lectures on Missals and illuminated manuscripts and the Bible as a printed book. Annette Marsh, lecturer in Art, Ontario College of Education, lectured in Poster work and lettering.

WINIFRED G. BARNSTEAD
Director

Department of School Libraries

Books are the true levelers. They give to all who faithfully use them, the society, the spiritual presence, of the best and greatest of our race.—W. E. Channing

Provision of Books for Elementary Schools¹

L. Stanley Jast, chief librarian, Manchester, England

(Continued)

A Report on public libraries in England and Wales, . . . comes to hand.

The Report commends the chief feature of the Cardiff system, viz.: the coöperation of the education and library authorities in the supply of books by the one, and of administration by the other. It is perfectly clear to anyone who understands what is involved by the supervision of libraries or collections of books, that the public library can administer them better and more cheaply than the education authority. It is organized for that express purpose—it has all the machinery at hand—and the education authority cannot possibly duplicate that machinery. It is there, and why not use it? It would seem absurd to ask the question were it not that in a few isolated cases the education authority is so fearful of allowing anybody outside its own official circle to have anything to do with any work for which it provides funds, that it has preferred to put its school libraries in charge of some untrained clerk in the office, rather than accept the proffered help of the local public library. The result in every such case with which I am acquainted is inefficient maintenance, both as regards number of volumes and the condition of the stock. Worse than the economic error is the spirit behind it, because this is the portion of the library field where the responsibilities of the two authorities distinctly overlap, and where, if anywhere, good-will and service ought to be the primary considerations. If these are lacking it is the children who suffer.

"It has indeed been suggested," says the Report, "that the whole of the supply of books for children under their

control might be left entirely to the education committees, and that the public libraries might wash their hands of this portion of the work." The Committee evidently regard this suggestion as not worth following up, and content themselves with saying that experience shows that "the public libraries can both assist the Education Committees materially in the formation and maintenance of school libraries and supplement the work of the schools usefully by the formation of juvenile departments in the public library itself."

It is as well, however, to give some consideration to the case for the Education Committee taking over the whole of the supply of home reading for children, without the public library sharing in it in any way, on the grounds on which it has been argued. These grounds appear to be two, and succinctly stated, they are these:

1. The teacher knows better than the librarian the books which the children like and which they ought to read.

2. The teacher can bring a more definite pressure and a more understanding guidance on the reading than the librarian.

It will be observed that the question of what may be called the mechanism of librarianship—the professional training side—is assumed to be of little or no importance. Librarians may attach importance to it, but that's their job, and naturally they make a mystery of what, after all, is a very simple matter. In a word, the attitude of the teachers who take this view—not many, I think—is precisely that of the general public towards teaching in the dark ages of the day before yesterday, when any fool could teach, and a very considerable number of fools did. Let this particular assumption, however—not, of course, the assumption that anybody can teach by the light of nature, but the other, that

¹From an address in a course for a Teachers Union at Leeds University.—By permission.

any teacher can librarianise without training—pass.

There is a further large assumption implicit in argument number one, and that is that a teacher, by virtue of his calling, is familiar with the best literature, and has a sound literary taste. True, there is nothing whatever in his training as a teacher which ensures either wide reading or even a literary sense. Far be it from me to suggest that there are not many teachers who possess both a competent knowledge of literature and a discriminating literary sense. Equally far am I from suggesting that there are not librarians who have neither. All I would claim is that the librarian, if not by virtue of his training, at least by the nature of his work, is more in contact with literature, has immensely greater opportunities of evaluating books, and from having to cater for a public which is large and varied, is likely, other things being equal, to have a more catholic purview than the teacher. Apart from his temperamental and intellectual idiosyncrasies, everything pulls him that way. If he isn't a reading man—and I know librarians who don't read, some on principle and some because they think it interferes with their work!—he finds it difficult to avoid imbibing a sort of atmosphere of books, which counts, after all, for a good deal. A teacher hasn't that pull. If he is enthusiastic in this direction—and some are—he may go that way, but he isn't pushed along it, like the librarian. If this modest claim is admitted, it is enough, I submit, to make good the contention that the librarian is, on the whole, the most satisfactory officer to be generally responsible for the selection of books for children, with the help—valuable help—that some teachers can give him. In a word, there is really something in the idea of "every man to his job," the teacher to the teacher's, and the librarian to the librarian's. It is for that reason that I have always deprecated any attempt on the part of librarians to enter the proper field of the teacher.

There can, of course, be no doubt that some sorts of instruction are better given in a library than anywhere else. If you

are going to talk about literature, for example, where is a more fitting and inspiring place to do it in, than amongst books? Again, if individual reading under the guidance of a teacher, or research in connection with a particular subject of study, is to be carried out, the library and not the class room is obviously indicated. We have preferred to meet this requirement in Manchester by placing the Young People's rooms and their contents at the disposal of any teacher who cares to bring a class there for any of these purposes. The fact that our Young People's rooms are not in use for the library sessions during the day enables us to do this without interfering in any way with the normal work of the rooms. And this use of the rooms is growing, and will continue to grow, despite the difficulties which in one or two isolated cases enthusiastic teachers have had placed in their way, when they have wanted—in school time, of course—to take classes to the rooms. How or why any such difficulties should arise, I am not in a position to state—I don't know—but I am perfectly sure that they ought not to arise, for I can conceive of no more valuable a nexus between the school and the library than the occasional or regular bringing of school pupils—with the teacher—to the library for instruction best imparted with books rather than blackboards.

This is not an argument for turning class rooms into libraries, or libraries into class rooms, but it is an argument for the school overflowing into the library on those occasions which render the temporary migration of mutual advantage. And it preserves the domains of librarian and teacher inviolate. Amateur teachers and amateur librarians are occasionally necessary evils no doubt, but evils they are, and I am against any attempt at working them up and giving them, premeditatedly and of malice aforethought, a place in the sun. Frankly, they both annoy me, and they ought to have no place in any rational and well-considered system of co-ordination between the library and the school.

Coming to the second argument, that the teacher is better able to guide the

reading of children than the librarian, so far as the contention is based upon superior or equal knowledge of the literature, and judgment in its application, it begs the question, and has been answered in the foregoing comment on the first statement. But assuming the necessary equipment, the reference is obviously to the nature of the relationship between the teacher and the child. The child is subject to the teacher, in a way that he is not and cannot be subject to the librarian. The teacher is in intimate association with the child during his hours of work, the librarian merely comes in contact with him in part of his hours of leisure. The teacher's "read this"—or if that is regarded as implying much too commanding an attitude for the "watching brief" of the teacher of the educational world of today—his "I think you should read this" carries a force behind it to which the librarian's gentle behest, or advice, or suggestion, can lay no claim. If we ask why, we can only answer, because it has behind it the authority which attaches to the master, the whole "drive" which pushes, or leads, or pulls—I know I am on delicate ground, where words matter and not things, so choose your own term—the young aspirant up the steep incline of learning. The claim for the teacher, as against the librarian, is thus seen to be due to precisely that characteristic of the relationship which is invariably, and oftentimes indignantly, denied when mentioned in this particular connection by the librarian. I speak feelingly, because in the attempt I have made elsewhere* to arrive at a working delimitation of the respective roles of the teacher and the librarian, when the fields of both overlap, I have been sharply brought to book for talking of the "discipline" which the teacher imposes on the child.

I have discovered that nothing irritates educationists more than any reference to "discipline." They won't have it at any price. The old, bad schools had an unpsychological and brutal thing they called discipline—but the modern school has

long done away with this ogre of the past. One would almost gather that there is no discipline in the modern school; teacher and pupil, hand-in-hand, wander in the flowery meads of knowledge, gathering the blossoms as they will, or rather as the pupil wills, and that the only reason why the teacher is there at all is for companionship, and the silent, secret influence which a well-stored mind and a noble character must necessarily exert upon the shy, unfolding mind and emotions of the child. What a picture—what a beau-ti-ful picture. Let it stand. If any teacher prefers to look at his calling in this way, it is not mine to cast a doubt, or even "a possible, probable shadow of doubt" upon it. There is a book *On the art of reading*, by Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch, which contains two lectures on *Children's reading*, which is full of this kind of thing. As thus: "trench, manure, hoe and water around your young tree, and patiently allow the young fruit to develop of its own juice from the root; your own task being, as the fruit forms, but to bring in all you can of air and sunshine upon it."

Purveyors of "air and sunshine"; that, ladies and gentlemen, is your delightful business. And "air and sunshine" is exactly what the two lectures in question consist of, for there is not a single substantial contribution to any problem of children's reading in the 37 pages that Sir Arthur devotes to the subject; in fact, there is no recognition that there is any problem at all.

(Continued)

A preliminary examination of the material being gathered for the three yearbooks to be published this spring by sections of the A. L. A. indicates that quite unconsciously, each committee is vying with the other to see which yearbook can set the highest standard. The first two *School Library Yearbooks* set a good mark. The third aims to surpass them. Not to be outdone the children's librarians and the college and reference librarians are bringing into existence carefully worked up material which will be a credit to their groups and to the profession as a whole.

*See *The Relation of Libraries to Education*, a paper read before the Library Association Conference of 1917, and reprinted in *The Child as Reader*.

College and University Library Standards¹

Plans of the Committee of the N. C. A. Preliminary statement

It should be distinctly understood that nothing more than tentative statements can be made at this time regarding the plans of the Committee on Standards of college and university libraries. The committee, consisting of Miss Pritchett of Coe College and Mr King of Miami University, and the writer, has had but one meeting. This session was devoted to making the general plans and to a consideration of the details of one or two phases of the work that will be undertaken immediately.

The officers of the North Central association do not expect anything like a complete report at its next annual meeting. They wish the committee not only to prepare a set of minimum standards but also to make studies of college and university library service. To do both of these things, work will in all probability extend over a period of several years.

The committee plans to begin its work with colleges as contrasted with universities, as this group of institutions would be benefited to the largest degree by such standards as might be established. Standards that might be quite satisfactory for a four-year college would be entirely inadequate for the university with its graduate work and its professional schools. The committee expects eventually to get to a consideration of the libraries of universities.

Such information will be collected as will give the committee a fairly good general idea of the resources, finances, organization and building conditions by the time of the annual meeting of the N. C. A.

The data will be collected largely by questionnaires, but some funds at the disposal of the committee will allow a limited number of visits to the libraries for the purpose of getting information of assistance in putting the questionnaires in the best possible form. In addition, each librarian will be asked to

furnish the committee with copies of his budgets and of his annual reports for the past two or three years.

In addition, the committee has in mind two more intensive pieces of work that will be undertaken this first year. They are a study of library personnel and the preparation of minimum lists of books covering certain departments of college work. The personnel study will cover both college and university libraries. In case of the minimum lists, the holdings of the junior college libraries at least will be checked against them. This may be considered as an illustration of a simple type of a service study of which the committee hopes eventually to make a number.

When the personnel study is completed, the committee plans to undertake intensive study of such questions as buildings, finances, and the other aspects that appear, as a result of this year's preliminary survey, to be most significant.

A statement was drawn up by the committee at its first meeting as a general guide for its work. Discussion of it at this time would be helpful to us. The committee has taken the view that the functions of the college library are determined in the main by the institution of which it is a part. It is, therefore, of fundamental importance that the library staff be familiar with those objectives; competent to fit the library into them, and with adequate financial resources to do this.

The objectives of colleges vary somewhat from institution to institution. Furthermore, there is not complete agreement as to the best method of attaining a given objective. The following appear under present conditions to be fairly clearly defined functions of college libraries:

I To meet the study needs of an undergraduate student body in so far as these needs are not met thru the textbook, the lecture, and the laboratory.

The textbook is becoming a less conspicuous factor in college teaching. The trend has been from the use of one or a few books to the use of many. There is also, some reaction against the excessive use of the lecture method. A very def-

¹Condensed from report made at Midwinter meeting of College and University librarians, December 28, 1928.

inite movement looking toward a greater degree of individualization of instruction is apparent on the senior college levels. These three changes have made and are continuing to make new demands on the library, in such forms as:

a) Large use of assigned readings in reserved books.

b) Extensive use of books for more general reading than is represented by the definite prescription of reserved books.

c) Facilities for such forms of individual instruction as are represented by honors courses, reading for honors, reduction in the amount of formal instruction and increased emphasis on independent work.

II To meet the study needs of the instructional and library staffs. The printed resources necessary for this purpose are properly a charge against the institution. The salaries of the members of the staffs are not adequate for the purchase of all of these materials from personal funds, and they are necessary for a satisfactory discharge of their professional responsibilities.

III To meet the individual research needs of faculty members. This function should not be confused with the preceding, which is concerned with such needs as the faculty member may have for the books and periodicals necessary if he wishes to keep abreast of the developments in his subjects of instruction. In contrast, this function has to do with the resources needed if he is to make contributions to the extension of the boundaries of his field of knowledge. If it is accepted, the following should be recognized:

a) The financial support of the library should be put on a more liberal basis than would otherwise be necessary.

b) The probability that in many cases it would be more satisfactory from the standpoint of the faculty member and more economical from the viewpoint of the college to provide faculty members with the funds, and if necessary the time, to go to a notable collection elsewhere than for the college to attempt to build up the desired library resources.

c) The policy of large numbers of colleges attempting to build the resources needed for the research interests of individual faculty members is certain to result in a dispersal of these materials that will be detrimental to the maximum development of research in this country in certain departments of knowledge for which the printed resources are very limited. A much wiser policy for the institutions that decide to make research one of their purposes, would be coöperative effort in developing the library facilities in such fields.

IV To develop the general reading interests of the student body. The period of college study should be one in which students extend the range and the amount of their general reading. It may well be that this is a function of the library in which the library staff will have to take almost complete, if not complete, responsibility. There is a genuine danger that this purpose will be lost to view under the pressure of required readings of the modern college.

The four functions that have been presented are the ones that appear most likely to be accepted by colleges generally. There may be exceptions in case of the third. In addition, it may be necessary in the case of certain institutions to include at least two more:

I Extension of the use of the library to former students. This appears in two forms at the present time. In some of the larger institutions, former students are returning to the libraries for study and research at inter-session periods. Other institutions are making a definite effort to interest former students in turning to them for assistance in continuing their education. This aspect of adult education seems likely to assume larger proportions with the lapse of time. If it does develop, the library is certain to have an important part in it.

II To meet the needs of extension students. In some instances, these students may be taking correspondence or extension courses, but in other cases their needs will be represented by the less formal activities of debating societies and clubs of various kinds. This func-

tion has already become of much importance in some institutions.

These are the functions of the library that the committee felt should have consideration as a result of its survey of the literature bearing on the subject and as a result of its acquaintance with what is actually being done by college and university libraries. The committee does not contend that the library should or should not undertake to accomplish all of these purposes. It proposes rather to find out the extent to which libraries are attempting to attain these and other objectives. It then plans to formulate in terms of staff, buildings, equipment and book resources the minimum standards that are necessary for a realization of those standards on acceptable bases. It hopes at the same time to make such studies of library service as will be helpful to librarians in adjusting their libraries to college needs. The Association has a membership of nearly 200 institutions of higher learning. With the coöperation of this number of institutions and some financial backing from the Association, it should be possible to do a constructive piece of work, the influence of which will be felt for many years in the institutions of higher learning of the North Central association.

GEORGE A. WORKS

University of Chicago

The High School Librarian's Job¹

I believe one of the new biographers says that Gen. Robert E. Lee was a wonderful leader in every respect except one. He was too kind to be a stern disciplinarian, and without discipline he could not have succeeded. It is certainly true that no high-school librarian can succeed without discipline. I believe that the same quiet should be maintained in a school library as in a college or public library. The purpose of each is the same. Boys and girls come there to read and study. This is not possible unless perfect order is maintained. Explain this at the first and enforce it. Librarians themselves should speak as seldom as possible and in as few words. Let me

emphasize this. They should set the example to students in this respect.

In the beginning, if all high schools are alike, it will take all the nerve and personality one possesses to put it over. But children are quick to recognize right, and in a few weeks it will take little effort.

Boys and girls take advantage of young and inexperienced librarians and then much trouble ensues.

The librarians so treated may be excellent ones, trained in library schools, and later, are successful in college libraries. The high-school library is a problem all its own, and special training is necessary for it.

In the beginning, one needs to be hard-boiled, for the way one begins, means success or failure in the end.

I emphasize to the students the idea of a library and the feeling of awe and almost of reverence one should feel in the presence of books—the love and respect that are due them. An old student, when he came back on a visit, said, "I see you have a library up here now instead of a study hall." I did appreciate that remark.

In lending books to students, I use one card, which is kept in holder in the back of the book. When the book is taken outside the library, even for a minute or two, the borrower must sign the card and leave it with me.

I have found that with from 60 to 100 in the library, I cannot allow students to go to the stacks. They may get the books from the reference shelves around my desk, but all others must be called for. I keep all daily reference books close at hand.

By using this method we lost only three books last year, and these were replaced by the pupils who lost them. The boys and girls themselves are very proud of this record and take much better care of the books than most adults would.

In spite of the fact that they do not go to the stacks, I have found that students are more or less familiar with the classification of the books. If one asks for a book of science, history or literature, for example, he can usually tell me

¹From an address by Mrs. Mary T. Leiper, Bowling Green, Ky.

where it is to be found. I often ask this to test their knowledge.

We are most unfortunate in that our Board of Education appropriates no fund for new books or library equipment. They pay the librarian's salary, but the school itself must maintain the library.

Funds have been raised for several years by giving operettas under the direction of our able music supervisor. Last year this was impossible, and we had a "Book Shower" given by the students and faculty during Book Week. A list of desired books and authors was prepared and given out in advance. More than 300 excellent books were donated that week. The donor in each case wrote his name and the date of presentation on the fly leaf. I found that this brought about a greater appreciation of the library, as they felt that they had a part in it.

The Home Economics department also helped us by selling its products during recess and this added \$75 to our fund. So that in spite of no appropriation, we have added 771 books to our library in a year, and now have on our shelves 3124 usable volumes.

The superintendent, principal and faculty all do their utmost to make the library the working laboratory without which they could not carry on. They are thotful in giving reference lists in advance, and all librarians know from experience how invaluable is this assistance.

Each year the members of the faculty are asked to hand in a list of books they require in the order of their preference. The Library committee, composed of the principal, heads of the English and history departments and the librarian, then select as many of these as there are funds to buy.

We subscribe for about 15 magazines. The students devour these as soon as they have prepared their school work, and often before!

A keen sense of humor is the librarian's salvation. A hearty laugh up one's sleeve greatly relieves the strain of hard work from 7:45 till 3. Children can break the world's record for doing and saying, all unbeknownst, humorous and

original things. Last week a girl asked me for a book containing antidotes. I gave her one, and she returned it saying she wanted the kind of antidotes you use for after-dinner speeches. Would that I knew!

I have been telling you some of the problems I have tried to solve, but there are more to come. What school person of today isn't interested in credits? I have been amazed and chagrined to find that much of what I had thot two decades ago was about four years of college work is now rated as high-school requirement, and there are other changes. I'm all for the new order of things, but it is sometimes hard.

Now I am facing the big problem of making up those hours of credit I thot I had, but that shrank with age. I must also get those hours credit in library science that are required in the new ruling of the Association of colleges and secondary schools for the southern states.

These requirements for all high-school librarians, which I am told must be met in the next two years, have created an emergency both for the librarians and for the colleges which give courses in library science. The librarians must have the work and the credits at once, and in order to meet this demand, the universities, teachers' colleges and library schools must be prepared to offer the courses. How effectively we all can meet this emergency remains to be seen.

School Librarians' Meeting

An innovation at the midwinter meeting of the Education committee consisted of two open meetings. These meetings were planned in order to give school librarians, whose duties often keep them from the regular annual meeting of the American Library Association, opportunity to get together and discuss their problems.

The first meeting was conducted by Miss Clara Howard, head of the library instruction department of the New Jersey College for Women, and was devoted to the problem of the training of the school librarian. Charles H. Stone, chairman of the College subcommittee,

contributed a paper on the subject, To what extent should the training of the school librarian be specialized and when it should coincide with the general course? Mr Stone expressed the conviction that school librarians should first receive a thoro general course with specialization for the particular field later.

Miss Helen Farr, instructor at Columbia University library school, discussed What educational courses are necessary for the training of school librarians? Miss Farr said:

The question hinges on whether the school librarian is first a teacher and after that a librarian. We want to know whether she must have the same training as a teacher before she takes up library training. Many opinions are handed down but as yet there has been no real study. The question is still unsettled. The situation is still not so far settled that it is too late to formulate a policy. Set qualifications have not been solidified as to what we want the school librarian to be.

In the absence of any real scientific guidance on this subject, and feeling that a librarian should have some background in the field of education, Columbia is offering next year two courses to be given in Teachers College and required of those taking the school library curriculum.

Personally, I believe the library viewpoint has a big contribution to make to the school. Most of our school librarians who are successful were trained for public libraries. A Cleveland girl was asked if her teacher's training had been of much help to her. She said, "Yes, I know what teachers are trying to do, but I have to check myself constantly on my teacher's attitude and remind myself that I cannot force people to read anything and they are here only as long as there is no compulsion put upon them." Libraries have always been voluntary.

Miss Annie Cutter of Cleveland took up the question of the training for a school librarian in the elementary school. Should it differ for the training of a children's librarian? She believes that the training should be the same. The librarian is working with the same children and with the same books. The difference does not lie in the essentials but in the application to particular organization. The children's librarian needs to know the relation of the library to the school work.

Miss Cutter told of her visit to Mexico City and the Lincoln library. She ad-

vised the modification of the plans for presenting books to Mexican children. Translation of American books into Spanish are greatly needed.

The New Junior High School committee presented its tentative objectives under the leadership of Marion Lovis.

On Saturday afternoon, Miss Grace Palmer of the Southwest Missouri State Teachers College, conducted a discussion of the Revision of the "measuring stick." The Rosenlof report was discussed also. It seemed to be the consensus of opinion that it was important for the librarians themselves to set up the standards of measurement.

Miss Eleanor Witmer of Denver presented the plans of the new Administrative and Reference subcommittee. This committee is to deal with library work with teachers in service. The committee proposes to find out just what service the teachers most desire.

The High School subcommittee, Margaret Greer, Minneapolis, chairman, took up the vexing question of missing books and the important topic of reading guidance. A message from Mrs Elizabeth Madison of Oakland, California on What the school administrator should know about the organization and administration of the high school library, stressed the various objectives of education and the contribution that the library may make in each case.

Miss Anna Walrad, Cortland, New York, led the discussion of Library lessons for all.

The committee also held a luncheon meeting on December 28 at which 28 members were present. Announcement was made of the prospect of securing funds for the school library department at A. L. A. Headquarters. It was voted to stress the elementary school library in the fourth *Yearbook* and the teachers college in the third *Yearbook*.

A meeting of the committee will be held in Cleveland in February in connection with the meeting of the Department of Superintendence.

HARRIET A. WOOD, Chairman
A. L. A. education committee

Statistics—Uniform or Motley¹

Charles B. Shaw, librarian, Swarthmore college, Pa.

This paper is intentionally sketchy rather than exhaustive or dogmatic. It does not inform you as to what a statistic is; nor does it attempt to tell you how, when, why or where they should be used. Its fundamental basic assumption is perhaps a fallacy; but if so, a fallacy which I shall not attempt to defend. This basic assumption is that—human nature being (which you choose) the weak or noble thing it is—statistics, like the poor, will always be with us. As a corpulent gentleman is reputed to be held in general affection, so, I suppose, statistics are held in general veneration. We may not like them, but we respect them. We look up to them, and look them up. If we assume this inevitability of statistics, this inescapable efflorescence of human ingenuity into graphs and curves and figures and percentages, we may as well assume, in addition, that they should be not only ornamental, but useful, too. This further assumption necessitates the confession that all is not as it should be in the realm of college and university library reports. It may even be that twentieth century academic statistics are, in a certain respect, similar to the state of Denmark in the days of Hamlet. Now, like an overseer of the aged and indigent presenting his case to a board of town or county commissioners, let me plead briefly for the welfare of these, our charges.

If this were a sermon and I were to have a text, it would be taken from what may become the college and university librarians' New Testament, the—as yet unpublished—report of Dean Works on the administrative problems of the larger institutions of higher learning. Again and again in the study, he finds that figures and comparisons are vitiated by various and incompatible methods of reporting what should be identical data.

¹This paper was read at the fifteenth conference of Eastern college librarians, in New York City, and seemed to me to have some value as an impetus to finding answers to some bothersome questions. I wonder if anything came of it. If so what, and where is it?

As an indication of the chaos which exists, let me summarize a part of the appendix to Dean Works' report. This report surveys 18 representative institutions.

What, for example, is a volume? Surely this would seem to be a simple and fundamental definition. Yet I quote three of the six different definitions subscribed to by these 18 institutions.

1) Any publication that is permanently bound, accessioned, and fully cataloged.

2) Each accessioned item. All bound books and all purchased pamphlets which cost more than 25 cents each are accessioned if they are considered valuable enough to catalog.

3) Any item of more than twenty pages.

Or, what is a periodical? Surely, again, apparently a simple and fundamental definition. Yet these 18 institutions yield 10 separate definitions, varying in greater or less degrees.

Or, what is an institution's annual "total expenditure, not including capital outlays"? The 18 institutions give five bases on which this sum is computed. One librarian writes that he has "seen the income of an institution stated as anywhere from two to five million, depending on what was intended to be included."

When University A—— and B—— College, to pick out only one of the possible scores of uses of statistics, do not agree on what a periodical is or on what items contribute to their respective total expenditures, of what conceivable value is a comparison showing that A—— spends 1.1 per cent of its funds on library periodicals, and B—— only .3 per cent? It is like the old pedagogical catch requiring the subtraction of three apples from five oranges.

The A. L. A. Committee on library administration has prepared a "revised form for college and reference library statistics." This blank requests about 70 items of information. I have recently examined 47 of these reports. None of the 47 institutions answers every question: many of the reports are so frag-

mentary that the information given can be of little use. Definitions are printed on this form; but, as evidenced above, little attention is paid to them. Possibly they need restatement: certainly they need emphasis.

Concerning this form, the chairman of of the A. L. A. College and Reference section writes:

Forms are due at A. L. A. headquarters on April 1. Practically every university ends its year on July 1. It seems to me that the figures preferably should be sent in on September 1 instead of April 1.

The total number of faculty means nothing as given. I would sub-divide this to "number of faculty fulltime" and "number of faculty part-time."

Students of collegiate grade means nothing. I recommend this to read "Students of collegiate grade taking not less than 15 hours as registered on October 15, 1926." This suggestion comes from our president.

The comparison of university libraries rests on the number of students at one time rather than the total number. I would also put in another heading for students doing part-time work.

You might put in a heading under special classes of students for short course students to cover the short courses given by many land-grant colleges.

Why not specify what you mean by total income? Do you mean total operating income; do you mean additions to endowment; do you include dormitory fees, experiment station funds, etc? . . .

Does this report include all the libraries acting under the university and serving the university students? . . .

What do you mean by inter-library loans? Do you mean outgoing or incoming?

What do you mean by extension service loans? Why not separate the number of inter-library loans into outgoing and incoming, and instead of saying "Extension service loans" say "Number of loans to individuals outside of the city, including extension service students"?

What do you mean by periodicals under finance? Do you really mean periodicals, or do you mean newspapers, periodicals, proceedings and transactions currently received?

I was thinking the point should be brought up in regard to the great failure of many university libraries to give many of these statistics even when they are available. Some librarians I know do not feel that these statistics should be given out. Nevertheless, universities are using trust funds, whether they come from endowment or the state. It seems to me that any university that insists that [information about] the use of its funds should not be available to the public is treading on very dangerous ground.

I quote these as illuminating samples of the alterations that might be made in our statistics. These and many other possible changes which cannot be referred to in a necessarily brief paper need detailed, careful consideration. I suppose that the orthodox procedure, when a group is convinced that something should be done but lacks the time and necessary cohesiveness for thrashing out the details, is the appointment of a committee. After all, my purpose here is evangelistic and initiatory. Somewhat like John the Baptist—tho not in a wilderness—I come as the representative of one committee to prepare the way for another. For I hope that this body may see fit to urge upon the A. L. A. College and Reference section the creation—and, further, will tacitly pledge the assistance of every individual member in the work of—a committee to study and clarify and remedy the matters just discussed. Then we may have our uniform statistics, properly regimented, dressed alike with neatness and for utility, deserving serious consideration and comparison; not the present curiously deformed figures sprawling purposelessly and misleadingly around in their perhaps amusing, perhaps innocuous, obviously useless clown-like motley.

American libraries can do no greater service to the general public than to acquire the *The Interpreter* and place it in easy access to the users of the library, whether the latter be foreign or native born. It will help both to understand each other, a much needed thing. *The Interpreter* is published by the Foreign Language Information Service, 222 Fourth Ave., New York City, and is devoted to its purpose "To interpret the immigrant to America." Much in it is equally valuable for Americans who desire to be fair with and to the later comers to the country.

A book, and especially a book of verse, evidencing, as it does, a refined taste in the giver, and complimenting, by inference, the cultured mind of the recipient, is always an acceptable gift.

—The Ard-Ree Press.

News from the Field

East

Margaret (Wood) Emerson, Simmons '17, has been appointed assistant librarian in charge of children's work at the Stoneham public library.

Beatrice (Lane) Fisher, Simmons '19, has been appointed librarian of the Public library of Duxbury.

Nellie Warren, Simmons '28, has been appointed an assistant in the Carpenter Memorial library, Manchester, N. H.

Miss Blake Beem, formerly librarian of the medical department of the University of Arkansas, is now reference librarian and assistant to the director of the Boston Medical library. This library is the fourth largest medical library in the United States having an international reputation as well as a fine standing in this country. Oliver Wendell Holmes was its first president, and the main reading room was named after him, Holmes Hall.

Besides the reference work, Miss Beem is interested in organizing a special bibliographical service for the library.

In a personal note, Miss Beem, who has always lived in the Southwest, says:

I find Boston a most charming city and I am very happy here. I do not meet the so-called New England reserve which makes some people dread coming to this part of the country as strangers.

The report of the Public library commission of New Hampshire states that the number of volumes sent out in traveling libraries in the last biennial term was 11,970, with double the circulation of 1926. None of the 700 rural schools of the state have libraries of their own. The demand for books for adults is beyond the means of the commission to supply.

The plan has been adopted of rotating the sessions of the summer schools among various state schools hoping that the change of location will render the school more accessible to librarians in other sections of the state.

More office help is needed as the work has gone beyond the power of the present staff to care for it. "Much of the work done has been accomplished because of the devotion of the staff, who have worked long hours overtime continuously, including evenings, holidays and Sundays. Lack of suitable space for books and work room has become an acute problem. Two-thirds of the commission's stock of books and printed matter is now stored in the basement of the State library, down four flights of stairs in the farthest corner removed from the administration desk. An elevator is a crying need and has been for many years, not only for the commission activities but for State library usage."

The report of the Vermont public library department records notable progress in Vermont libraries in improvement of buildings and construction of new ones. Twenty libraries have been located in attractive rooms and ten towns have completed new buildings in the last period. Visits to the libraries have been made possible by a book-wagon, and are of the greatest value in advising and assisting small libraries.

All indications point to increasing professional interest in books, book handling and library methods. Larger appropriations are noted, one-half of the towns applying for state aid reporting increased amounts. The disaster of the floods is being quickly repaired and in many cases, the libraries are better than before the flood. The State of Vermont allotted the department the sum of \$18,000 for restoration. The book collection is more than half restored and circulation is greatly extended.

The work of the traveling library department has grown most encouragingly. Books loaned in the biennial period reached 52,511. The last period of the biennial records 24 general traveling libraries; 283 school traveling libraries; 554 package libraries; 922 book and picture collections; 11,696 books, 75 pamphlets and 74 pictures.

The work of the department and the needs in that work were presented at a number of meetings by the secretary,

Miss Cook, and the head of the traveling library department, Miss Morehouse.

The library department has cooperated with the Vermont library association in planning and conducting district and state meetings of librarians. A two-weeks' training course for librarians of small libraries without training, was given twice in the Kellogg-Hubbard library, Montpelier, attended by 24 librarians.

Work with the state institution libraries has been most successful, limited only by means to carry it on.

A list of approved books for rural schools has been prepared by the library department, to be distributed by the Department of Education. These lists are the basis of approval for credits by the State Department of Education.

Central Atlantic

Edith M. Hagan, Simmons '28, has accepted a position on the staff of the Public library of the District of Columbia, Washington, D. C.

A gift of \$5,000 has been given to the Public library of Ridgefield Park, New Jersey, by the Congregational church of the city. The gift is in memory of a former pastor, Rev A. R. Wilson, and will be used to equip the children's department.

Olive Mayes, Pratt, '13, who, after several years experience in various libraries, became librarian of the Goodwyn Institute, Memphis, in 1922, has been appointed director of reference work at the Enoch Pratt free library, Baltimore, Md.

The New York public library has agreed to act as custodian of the Authors League of America memorial library. This will consist of the manuscripts and autographed first editions of every book by a member of the league which is hereafter published. The Public library has agreed to catalog the collection by authors and to preserve it as a separate entity.

The Public library of Albany, N. Y., has planned to present in the Theatre auditorium on Sunday afternoons, read-

ings from authors, new and old, who have an appeal for readers of today. The first was held on January 19, on Sunday, at four o'clock, when poems of Robert Burns were read to a delighted audience.

The report of the Business branch of the Public library, Newark, N. J., in its new quarters shows an increase in all the lines of its service over last year. The figures of increase are: attendance increased 3171, or 4%; directory users, 1687, or 5%; telephone inquiries, 910, or 6%; users of investment services, 2061, or 31%; personal inquiries, 2858, or 8%; users of N. J. Corporations file, 2051, or 44%; periodical users, 3533, or 31%; inquiries at charge desk, 749, or 6%.

The Library Company of Philadelphia is beginning to plan for the celebration of its two hundredth anniversary in 1931. The Library Company of Philadelphia, it will be remembered, was established in 1731 at Franklin's suggestion and is the first circulating library with a continuous existence in the United States. The monumental building which serves now as the Ridgway branch library, was built for the Library Company by Dr Benjamin Rush, son of a physician famous in Revolutionary War days.

The Public library, Binghamton, N. Y., named the first week in the new year as fineless week. An attractive appeal went to the public thru the press of Binghamton and the result is reported as having been most gratifying.

A new identification card was installed January 2 and already this is showing good results. This small card will be presented by the borrower each time he wishes to borrow a book. A date slip showing the date of returning the book will be placed in the back of each new book.

The report of the librarian, Claribel R. Barnett, of the United States Department of Agriculture, notes a circulation of more than 300,000v. Inter-library loans outside of Washington numbered 2432 and were made to every state in the Union with one exception, and in addition, to Canada, the Philippine Islands,

Porto Rico, Belgium and Palestine. The additions to the *Bibliographical Contributions* are set out at length. Some of general interest are, a list of international organizations interested in agriculture, control of production of agricultural products by governments, taxation and the farmer, economic aspects of the poultry industry, bounties on agricultural products, and others.

In accordance with the policy of the department of affording opportunity to librarians from other agricultural libraries to have experience in the Department library, Dr Sigmund von Fraendorfer of the International Institute of Agriculture library, Rome, spent the summer in the library to study its methods and resources.

Central

Madeline Haas, Simmons '28, has been appointed to the staff of the Detroit public library.

Alice Hussey, Simmons '28, has been appointed reference assistant in the Public library, Flint, Mich.

Mary Mize, Simmons '28, has accepted a position as children's librarian of the Public library, Berwyn, Ill.

Frieda Roemer, Simmons '28, has joined the staff of the Detroit public library.

Gertrude H. Pearl, Col., '28, has joined the staff of the National Safety Council library, Chicago.

Helen D. Gorton of Racine, Wis., has joined the staff in the County department of the Public library of Fort Wayne and Allen County.

Winifred F. Ticer, for six years consulting librarian, the Demco Company of Madison, Wisconsin, has joined the staff of the Public library, Warren, Ohio.

The library commissioners of Detroit are asking for \$250,000 to build a downtown annex building, possibly to be located on the site of the old main library building, abandoned on the library's removal to its new quarters.

Charlotte Michaelsen, Simmons '26, resigned her position at the Public li-

brary, Evansville, Ind., to go abroad. She is to be in Denmark for a number of months, and her address is Peker Skramsgade 24^{II}, Copenhagen, Denmark.

The Howe school, an Episcopal institution at Howe, Indiana, has announced plans for the establishment of a \$100,000 library for the institution in memory of the late Charles F. Gunther of Chicago. A sufficient fund has also been left for the endowment of the library.

Gretta Smith, Drexel '14, has resigned as assistant-secretary of the Louisiana library commission to be at home in Grinnell, Iowa, on account of the illness of her father. She will serve as acting-librarian of Grinnell College during the absence of Isabelle Clark, librarian.

Miss Bertine Weston, formerly of Brooklyn, N. Y., but for more than two years past, head of the publicity department of the Public library, Fort Wayne and Allen County, has accepted the position of managing editor of the *Library Journal*. Miss Weston succeeds Miss Eleanor Duncan and began her work February 1.

Charges of disorderly conduct were presented to the courts in Evanston, Ill., against a borrower, Mary McCammon, 55 years old. She is charged with marking religious books in the library with comments of her own, and defacing several volumes in this way. Passages in the New Testament particularly seemed to her to be worthy of comment.

Olive Jones, who for more than 30 years was librarian of the Ohio State University library, has the title and work of associate professorship of bibliography. The department of bibliography was built up under the library supervision. It is no longer under the supervision of the library but is a separate department, with Miss Jones as head.

George Reddick, age 59, city librarian of Whitewater, Wis., since September, 1928, died suddenly at his home in that city, December 23. Mr Reddick was for many years connected with the schools

of Indiana, later becoming librarian of the Northwestern Military and Naval academy at Faribault, Minn. He spent the year 1927-28 at the University of Wisconsin library school. He took up the work of city librarian at Whitewater, September 15, 1928.

Regents of the University of Michigan have accepted the gift of \$1,750,000 offered by W. W. Cook of New York, who has already given to the university more than three million dollars. The new gift will be used to furnish a new law library building. This will be built with special reference to its architectural features and will complete the quadrangle, long contemplated. It will be necessary for the State legislature to provide for the land on which to erect the building.

The annual report of the Public library, Detroit, Michigan, for 1928 gives the following: Population of Detroit, 1,381,874; registered library readers, 276,506; book circulation, 5,152,272; maintenance, \$1,228,486; books on the shelves, 716,483; Burton historical collection, 54,500. Service is rendered thru the main library, 22 branches, 31 sub-branches and deposits, and 112 schools with three institutions. Some 70,000 new readers were registered during the year and the renewals for the year were 30,000.

West

Manly D. Ormes, librarian of Coburn library, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, died at his home in that city, January 12, after a brief illness of pneumonia. Mr Ormes had been in charge of Colorado College library for 25 years.

South

The library organizations of Florida are working for a county library law for Florida and the development of state service from the State library.

Ruth M. Brown resigned her position in the Public library of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and was married to Dr Albert E. Lawrence, December 12.

A board of library directors for the Lafayette Parish, La., has been named. The board will be composed of ten mem-

bers, the first five of which will comprise the executive committee.

The post of librarian of the Public library, New Orleans, is vacant, the connection of Henry M. Gill who occupied the post for many years, having been severed by the trustees.

Nancy Boyd, Pittsburgh, '26, for several years in the Public library, Evansville, Ind., will become head of children's work in the Public library, Birmingham, in January.

James R. Howard, formerly an assistant in the Public library, St Louis, has been appointed librarian of the Public library, Hammond, Indiana, succeeding Albert R. Nichols, whose resignation was recently accepted by the library board.

Miss Mollie Norman, librarian of Union Springs, Ala., died January 1 at Waycross, Ga., while there on a visit. Miss Norman had been the librarian at Union Springs for a number of years, and was the guiding spirit and inspiration of much valuable work for libraries in Alabama.

The officers of the Arkansas library association elected for the year are: President, Mrs Carroll Bishop, Pine Bluff public library; first vice-president, Vera Snook, Little Rock public library; second vice-president, Morene Dumas, Eldorado high school library; secretary-treasurer, Mary Hines, Fort Smith high school library.

The Waitman T. Barbe Memorial library of Morgantown, West Virginia, has been taken over by the city authorities, who have authorized a tax levy for the support of the library. The library board is given complete control of the supervision, care and custody of the library, employs the librarian, approves the purchase of books, receives and holds title, in trust, to donations of cash or other personal property or real estate and other gifts.

The report of the Carnegie library, Atlanta, for 1928, records a circulation of 889,568v., an increase of more than

90,000; registration, 62,472. The volume of work done by the library has increased 65 per cent in the last six years; number on the staff has increased 24 per cent; appropriation for maintenance has increased 19 per cent.

The report contains a very striking comparison between the remuneration of the staff of the public school libraries and the public library staff, where professional preparation and duties are comparable. (See p. 62) Comparisons between Atlanta and towns of the same size are also offered, with the conclusion:

It is unnecessary to point out that any business operating under such conditions as have been outlined above, is functioning either at a sacrifice of service to its patrons or at a sacrifice of the employees to the service, and, in the case of the library, it is functioning at present at the cost of service in a measure, but, in a greater degree, at the cost of its staff of workers. Increasing congestion in the library conditions depreciates the efficiency of the service.

The necessity for a new building is very clearly shown.

The arrangement of the main floor of the Carnegie library of Nashville, Tennessee, which has not been changed since the building was opened more than 20 years ago, is being changed. It will bring the desk to the middle of the room and place book shelves along the walls, opening up the quarters more freely to the public.

A station will be opened at Fisk University to supply especially negro children, and adults also, with books which will be under the supervision of student workers. This branch will cooperate with the negro branches of the library, interchanging books so as to keep a fresh supply at the university for the colored people of the vicinity.

The city appropriation for the library this year has been increased to \$45,000. The substitution of coke for coal in the heating system has been very satisfactory both as to cost and in the abatement of the smoke nuisance.

Suzanna Dunlap Miller has been appointed librarian of the children's department following the departure of Elizabeth M. Latch.

Pacific

The Riverside library service school began December 31 with full enrollment of 25 students. While the greater part of the students are from California, six other states are represented in the list.

Mirpah Blair, who was chief assistant in the State library of Oregon for many years, has been named by the State library board as assistant-in-charge of the library, with authority to conduct the affairs of the library until further action.

The report of the library of University of California, Berkeley, reprinted from the *Annual Report* of the university, records nearly 400,000 books issued for the year 1927-28; books on the shelves, 706,635; approximate number of cards in the depository catalog, 1,546,669; volumes added during the year, 42,654. Nearly 35,000 students had access to the shelves. The graduate reading room has reached its capacity and many applicants for individual assignments can not be accommodated. The A. F. Morrison Memorial library has been organized and shows a daily average attendance of 177 readers.

A number of valuable gifts have been received.

Canada

Captain McCarthy of the Public library, Winnipeg, Manitoba, has retired on pension.

Mr E. S. Robinson, chief librarian, Vancouver, has plans for two new branches; one of which he hopes to build this year.

The Public library, Belleville, Ontario, has undergone a transformation under the new librarian, Mr Mowat, a returned soldier and an enthusiast in the cause of adult education.

This is a building year in the Public library in Toronto. Mr Locke has not only a new Central library in process of completion but two large branch libraries to be opened by next fall.

St Michael's College, Wycliffe College and Victoria College, all in Toronto, are planning new libraries and the University of Toronto is planning an extension

of its stack room. The University of New Brunswick has been given money with which to put up a library building.

Foreign

An increasing number of British libraries are consenting to act as outlier libraries for the Central Library for Students in London. The total number of outlier libraries is now 61, with a stock of over a million and a half volumes.

Special donations recently received are: about 450 v. from the library of the late Lord Haldane; 235 v. from the library of the French hospital; 95 v. from the Guildhall library; a collection of 550 v. from the Richmond public library; a set of the *Challenger Reports* from the Kingston-on-Thames public library.

Owing to the non-receipt of expected grants, the amount available for the purchase of books this year is small. This has been supplemented by the following additional grants: Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, £250 for the purchase of books for adult classes; from the Halley Stewart Trust, a grant of £250; from the Cassell Trust, a grant of £150; from the Thomas Wall Trust, a grant of £100.

The new quarters of the Vatican library in the Belvedere were formally opened by Pope Pius XI in December. There were 16 cardinals and many other distinguished persons present to whom the Pope expressed great interest in the new use which would be made of the Vatican library because of the new American methods adopted on recommendation of the committee who studied the situation last year. Pope Pius XI also expressed appreciation of the generosity of the Carnegie Foundation, which paid the whole expense of cataloging and re-arranging that part of the Vatican treasures which will be open now to the scholarship of the world at large.

At present, the Vatican library has more than 250,000 printed volumes, including more than 2500 Fifteenth Century editions. It has also 26,000 manuscripts, irreplaceable should they

be destroyed by fire or any other catastrophe. The Pope is taking great interest in the development of the Vatican library of which he was once librarian.

The sixth annual report of the trustees of the American Merchant Marine library association gives an interesting account of their year's work in providing books for the Merchant Marine service, the coast guards, light houses and light-ships, as well as the vessels sailing to distant ports. The account of the success of book weeks used for raising funds, collecting books, etc., is most entertaining. The statistics give some notion, tho slight, of the extent and value of the work: Ships receiving libraries, 1776; life saving stations receiving libraries, 225; lighthouses receiving libraries, 60; libraries lent to ships and stations, 5535; circulation on ships and at stations, 258,448v.; books in stock, 208,974. Some 396 of the 1776 ships receiving libraries are Great Lakes vessels. The others sail from sea coast ports to all parts of the world.

Wanted—Trained librarian with several years' experience in college libraries wishes reference or executive position, preferably in Middle or Far West. Helen Hefling, Vassar College Library, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

The Public library, Westport, Conn., has seven volumes of the *United States catalog* to dispose of at \$1 each with carriage charge to any library desiring them. These include, *U. S. catalog*, Books in print to 1912, with supplements from Jan. 1918 to Dec. 1927.

Wanted—Position now, by library school graduate, 9 years' experience, including organization and technical work. F. F. Hart, 131 So. Lake St., Ponca City, Okla.

The Library department of A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, has issued a selected catalog of standard juvenile books in reinforced binding.